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The Analysis and Identification of Basic Words in Grades k-6

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Running Head: BASIC WORDS

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Abstract

Basic words have been defined as those from which other words can be derived semantically. The assumption underlying the instructional utility of a list of basic words is that a knowledge of them would provide a key to the understanding of a much larger set of related words. Although it has been shown that there are far too many basic words in the English language to make a comprehensive list useful instructionally, it has been suggested that a small set of high frequency basic words students encountered in academic situations would be very useful as a tool for literacy development. Consequently, this study sought to identify a list of k-6 basic words students commonly encounter in content-area textbooks and standardized tests. From an initial corpus of 30,371 words, 6,768 basic words were identified.

The Analysis and Identification of Basic Words in Grades k-6

The identification of basic words has been of interest to educators for years, primarily because of the presumed utility of such a list. Given that basic words are considered to be those from which other words in the language are derived, a reasonable assumption has been that a knowledge of basic words within the English language will naturally lead to increased facility at learning the other words within the language. Specifically, it has been assumed that teaching students a small set of basic words could provide a key to understanding those words which are derived from the basic words (Becker, Dixon & Anderson-Inman, 1980).

One of the earliest attempts to identify the basic words in English was Ogden's (1932) "basic English," an 850-word lexicon from which all other English words could be derived. Unfortunately, Ogden's basic words were more like primitive concepts which cognitive scientists (e.g., Shank & Rieger, 1974) use to map the morphologic structure of nouns and verbs, than they were like basic words from which the meaning of other words could be induced by the "average" language user. A similar effort to identify the primitive semantic concepts in English was undertaken by Burger (1984) who focused on verb forms as the primary semantic structure within the English language.

Dupuy (1974) was the first to operationally define a basic word. Among other criteria, Dupuy listed the following: inclusion in each of four major dictionaries, not compound or hyphenated, not a proper name or an abbreviation, not foreign, archaic, informal, technical, derived, or variant. Based on a one percent sample of the four criterion dictionaries, he then estimated that there are 12,000 basic words in the English language. Following the Dupuy criteria, Becker et al. (1980) identified 8,109 basic words from a list of 25,782 words drawn from an updated version of the Thorndike & Lorge (1943) list. The intent of their study was to create a list of basic words which could be used as an instructional tool. Presumably a knowledge of the 8,109 words in the list would allow one to infer the meaning of the 25,782 (and perhaps more) words from which the list was derived. On the surface, such a list has great appeal. Reason would suggest that if coverage of these words was spread out over an extended interval of time (e.g., grades k through 12), instruction in the basic words would not be an overwhelming task.

Nagy and Anderson (1984), however, identified a number of fallacies in Dupuy's logic and, consequently, in Becker et al.'s methods for selecting basic words. They noted that Becker et al.'s use of rather strict morphologic criteria for identification of basic words rendered their list invalid for all practical purposes, or at least invalid as an instructional tool. Specifically, Nagy and Anderson asserted that morphologic relationships between words do not always ensure strong semantic relationships, at least from the perspective of the average language user. For example, following the Dupuy criteria, Becker et al. assigned the words animism and animosity to the same root word (basic word) anima. Nagy and Anderson noted that the average language user would probably be unaware of the word anima. Even if she were, they argued, she would probably not make a meaningful connection between animism and animosity.

In other words, Nagy and Anderson concluded that Becker et al.'s list of 8,109 basic words are, for the most part, too unrelated semantically from the other words in the 25,782 corpus from which they were drawn to constitute an instructionally meaningful set. In fact, using a corpus of 86,741 words drawn from reading material encountered in grades 3 through 9 and referred to as "written school English" (Carroll, Davies & Richman, 1971), they estimated that there are 88,500 basic words. Based on this estimate, they asserted that any attempt to systematically teach and reinforce basic words would be futile since so many words remained to be taught.

Beck, McKeown and Omanson (1987) offered an alternative to the Nagy and Anderson position. They conceded that there are many more basic words in the English language than could be reasonably taught in any instructional situation; however, they asserted that only a small proportion of the basic words would have to be taught to significantly affect student vocabulary development. Specifically, they noted that about half of the 88,500 Nagy and Anderson basic words would be encountered only once in an avid reader's lifetime, given the diversity of texts from which the corpus of study was drawn. Additionally, of the remaining 44,250, only about 15,000 would be encountered once or more in 10 million running words. In short, Beck et al. concluded that although Nagy and Anderson are probably correct in their estimate of the number of basic words in printed school English, this estimate is not an accurate reflection of the number of basic words that students would be highly likely

to encounter in reading. Their arguments suggest that a list of high frequency basic words would be relatively short, yet powerful in instructional yield. Since such a list could be very useful, this study attempted to identify a corpus of basic words that students would be highly likely to encounter in academic situations. Additionally, this study sought to identify grade levels at which the basic words should be taught to students who do not already know them.

Although vocabulary words are commonly thought of in terms of grade levels, there is little agreement as to what a grade level designation signifies and how to assign grade levels to words. Thorndike and Lorge (1943), for example, did not identify grade levels per se. Rather, they ranked words by frequency and then recommended that words between specific frequency ranges be introduced at specific grade levels. Harris and Jacobson (1972) identified the earliest grade level at which words appeared in at least three of six basal reading series used in their study. They assumed that the grade at which a word first appears in content reading material was the best indicator of when the word should be introduced to students.

Although there are variations on the theme, most attempts to assign grade levels have utilized the frequency of occurrence and/or first occurrence of words from a given corpus usually drawn from a variety of types of text which students encounter. For example, Thorndike and Lorge's (1943) list of words was drawn primarily from student textbooks and magazines. Although almost all studies that we reviewed used frequency data from more than one type of reading material, no studies utilized frequency data for words on standardized tests. Consequently, the present study sought to determine grade levels for the basic words identified using multiple frequency data that included standardized tests.

Method

For the purposes of the study "words students frequently encounter in academic situations" were defined as words students will commonly encounter when reading content-area textbook material and in standardized tests.

Corpus

The initial word list used to generate the corpus of study was the Basic Elementary Reading Vocabulary (Harris & Jacobson, 1972). This list was derived from fourteen elementary textbook series (six basal series and two series each from the fields of English, social studies, math and science) and includes 7613 words. Because the list is somewhat dated, it was reviewed by 60 kindergarten (k) through sixth grade teachers who added words they considered important for content-area instruction. For addition of a word to the corpus, the majority of the participating teachers had to agree. Words considered not relevant to current content were deleted. The addition and deletion process generated a list of 7,230 words. This list was then merged with words in Becker, et al's (1980) list of 8,109 basic words. Finally, the words found in the directions to the student and content of the following standardized tests were added to the combined list:

- The California Achievement Tests (CAT) (1986; Form E; Levels 10 through 20, inclusive)
- The Comprehensive Test of Basic Skills (CTBS) (1984; Form U; Levels A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, J, K)
- Science Research Associates (SRA) Survey of Basic Skills Objectives (1984; Form P; Levels 20, 21, 22, 23, 34, 35, 36, 37)
- The Stanford Achievement Tests (Gardner, Rudman, Karlsen & Merwin 1981; Form E; Levels K1, K2, P1, P2, P3 I1, I2, A, T1, T2)

In all, over 17,000 distinct non-duplicated words were found in the four standardized tests. The composite corpus generated from the aggregation of the sources described above comprised 30,371 words.

Procedure for Identifying Basic Words

The corpus of 30,371 words was then analyzed by two raters to determine those words that were basic. A third rater was used to make decisions when the two raters did not agree whether a word was basic. Inter-rater reliability for the first two raters was above .99. That is, the two raters disagreed on less than one word per 100.

The criteria or rules used to identify basic words were:

1. Abbreviations were considered nonbasic (etc., e.g.).

2. Regular and irregular plurals were considered nonbasic (houses, mice).

3. Regular comparatives and superlatives were considered nonbasic (but irregular comparatives and superlatives were considered basic [prettier vs. best]).

4. Regular and irregular inflected forms (except for pronouns and some irregular verbs) were considered nonbasic (walked, gone).

5. Alternate spellings and pronunciations were considered nonbasic (good-bye vs. goodby; nothing vs. nothin').

6. Proper names were considered nonbasic, except for months, days of the week, planets, the continents, the fifty states, and cities and countries that appeared with high frequency in K-6 reading material.

7. Formulae were considered nonbasic (H_2O).

8. Non-words were considered nonbasic (NATO).

9. Foreign words were considered nonbasic (señor).

10. Ordinal numbers were considered nonbasic when they could be derived (from "fourth" onwards), cardinal numbers were considered nonbasic when they formed a compound (twenty-three).

11. Feminine forms of nouns were considered nonbasic when masculine forms were available (waiter vs. waitress).

12. Masculine and feminine forms of nouns were considered nonbasic, when nonsexlinked forms of nouns were available (spokesperson vs. spokesman/spokeswoman).

13. Occupational titles were considered nonbasic when there existed nouns describing corresponding fields of study (biology vs. biologist).

There are some notable differences between the criteria listed above and those described by Nagy and Anderson. First, it is important to note that Nagy and Anderson were interested in arriving at criteria that could be used to determine the number of distinct or basic words in printed school English. The present study was aimed at producing a list of academically relevant basic words that would have immediate instructional utility using Beck's et al's (1987) reasoning. One necessary bias in developing such a list is that any word which cannot be easily derived from any other word by the "average" language user should be considered basic even though it is related to another word

morphologically. Another is that categories or types of words that are frequently the focus of instruction should be considered basic. The rules used in this study reflect these biases. In the Nagy and Anderson study, all comparative and superlative forms were considered non-basic. Since irregular comparative and superlative forms are very distinct from their positive forms (good, better, best) it was deemed necessary to include them in our basic word list (see rule 3). Similarly, in the present study inflected forms were considered basic except for pronouns and highly irregular verbs (see rule 4), whereas in the Nagy and Anderson study no exceptions were made. Specifically, pronoun forms (e.g., I, you, me) were considered basic in this study owing to their highly irregular nature. It was assumed that recognizing the word I would not necessarily lead to a recognition of the word me or other inflective forms. A similar situation exists for some verbs. While there are many verbs that are irregular in the way that their principal parts are formed (find, found, found) only a few have such morphographically different forms that little relationship is apparent. In this study, such irregular verb forms were retained as basic words (e.g., bring, brought; go, went). Similarly, conjugated forms of the verb to be were considered basic since that verb has such variant forms (e.g., am, is, are). Proper names were considered nonbasic without exception in the Nagy and Anderson study, whereas in this study exceptions were made for months, days of the week, planets, the continents, the fifty states, and cities and countries that appeared with high frequency in k-6 reading material (see rule 6). Cities and countries that appeared in the American Heritage Word Frequency Book (Carroll, et al., 1971) as frequently as any other word determined to be at the sixth grade level within this study were selected for inclusion in the basic word list. In the Nagy and Anderson study, formulae were considered nonbasic, while in the present study an exception was made for numbers (see rule 10). Specifically, cardinal numbers were considered basic, whereas ordinals above third were considered derived forms or nonbasic. For example, fourth can be easily derived from four, third less so from three, and second and first cannot be derived at all from two and one. Again, cardinal numbers were considered such an integral aspect of classroom instruction that it was determined they should be part of a list of instructionally meaningful basic words.

Any words not covered by the thirteen rules described above were then analyzed as to the extent that they were basic or nonbasic where basic words were defined as those that could not be derived semantically or morphologically from another word.

Procedure for Determining Grade Levels

Once a corpus of basic words was identified, grade level estimates were determined for each word. Specifically, all words in the corpus of basic words were found in the American Heritage Word Frequency Book or WFB (Carroll, et. al., 1971), which contains 87,741 words taken from over five million words of running text in material encountered by students in grades 3 through 9. The grade level at which each word first appears in the material used to create the WFB corpus was identified. Also, the modal grade for each word was calculated using the grade-level frequencies in the WFB.

These two data points provided a rough guide for estimating the grade level at which one might consider a word familiar to most students. The raters assumed that the modal grade levels calculated from the WFB represent those grade levels by which students should have a firm grasp of the word. Conversely, the grade level at which the word first appears in student reading material was considered the level at which the word might be understood by students with the aid of some direction or instruction. Using those two pieces of data as upper and lower limits, grade levels were initially assigned to the words by two raters. In their grade-level assignments, the raters sought to identify those levels by which students should be able to recognize and understand the words to be able to read and comprehend without the benefit of teacher aid, the material in textbooks and standardized tests. Thus, the grade at which a word is first introduced in reading material is probably too early, and the level at which a word most frequently appears is probably too late. The initial grade level designations were then adjusted using the grade levels of first appearance on the four standardized tests used to create the corpus (the CAT, the CTBS, the SRA and the Stanford) and the modal grade levels on these tests. That is, the two data points derived from standardized tests were used to validate the initial grade levels. Specifically, the raters determined the extent to which the initial grade level assignments fit within the range identified from the four standardized tests. Any extreme discrepancies between

initial grade level assignments and the ranges on standardized tests were noted and grade level assessments adjusted by the raters.

Five classroom teachers representing grades 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 then reviewed all grade-level assignments. Teachers were asked to replace any grade level assignment with which they did not agree with a grade level they considered more appropriate. Any word for which a new grade level was assigned by the participating teachers was then reviewed by the raters. If the two raters agreed, a change in grade level was made.

As a measure of grade level validity, the final grade-level estimates were correlated with the first appearance and modal grade level appearance on the WFB and the four standardized tests.

Results

The appendix lists the 6,768 basic words derived from the corpus of 30,371 using the criteria described previously. The words are ordered by their final grade-level designations. Listed along with each word is the grade level at which the word first appears on one or more of the standardized tests used in the study. The correlations among the final grade level estimates with the first and modal appearance of the words on the four standardized tests and the WFB for each word are reported in Table 1.

Insert Table 1 about here

Table 1 indicates that the final grade-level designation (BASIC) was the most robust correlate in the matrix. Specifically, the range of correlations between BASIC and the other measures was .29 to .68. The low value of this range was higher than the low value of the range for any other correlate; similarly the high value of this range was greater than the high value of the range for any other correlate. In keeping, the average correlation with BASIC (.47) was higher than the average correlation for any other variable in the matrix. The robust nature of BASIC is perhaps best illustrated when it is regressed on the other variables. The multiple R from that analysis was .83 ($\underline{N}$ = 1448, $p < .001$) and the coefficient of determination was .69. When multiple regression analyses were

conducted using the ten other correlates in the matrix as dependent variables, the next highest multiple R using SRA (F) as the dependent variable was .77 ($\underline{N}$ = 1448, $p < .001$) with a coefficient of determination of .59.

Discussion

The findings in this study generally support Nagy and Anderson's assertion that there are far too many basic words in the English language to constitute a corpus that might be taught within the context of regular classroom instruction. Specifically, out of a 30,371 word corpus, 6,768 or 22% were found to be basic. Although the probability of a word being basic has an inverse relationship with the frequency of use of the word (Nagy & Anderson, p. 329), one could induce from this study that there are many basic words in the English language, far too many to teach in any direct manner.

However, the purpose of the study was to identify a set of k-6 basic words that are commonly found in academic situations. Using the Beck et al. logic, providing students with direct instruction in a small set of words that can be used to determine the meaning of other words and are frequently encountered in materials they read, might have immediate benefits for literacy development. The 6,768 words in the Appendix represent such a list. Where 88,500 basic words would be impossible to teach, 6,768 in grades k-6 would not, especially if instruction were limited to students at risk in terms of their language development and to words they did not know. That is, instruction in the basic words could be limited to those students not performing up to expected levels in terms of their literacy development under the assumption that within the course of normal literacy development the basic words would be learned incidentally or through direct instruction. Within this subset of students, instruction would focus on only those words students did not already know. Hence, for any one student, instruction would probably focus on a small subset of 6,768 basic words.

Of course, this study does not address such important issues as how instruction in the basic words should be accomplished. However, it does for the first time provide a corpus of basic words that by some measures appear to be academically sound and are also few enough to have instructional utility.

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Authors' Notes

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Table 1

Intercorrelation Between Grade Level Designations

		2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
1.	BASIC	.38 (4915)	.67 (3401)	.68 (3108)	.67 (2806)	.62 (3007)	.45 (4861)	.33 (3400)	.29 (3109)	.33 (2806)	.29 (3007)
2.	WFB (f)		.25 (2889)	.26 (2627)	.23 (2384)	.25 (2550)	.25 (4861)	.12 (2888)	.12 (2628)	.13 (2384)	.16 (2550)
3.	CAT (f)			.53 (2398)	.52 (2185)	.49 (2331)	.34 (2874)	.63 (3400)	.17 (2399)	.23 (2185)	.18 (2331)
4.	CTBS (f)				.56 (2094)	.50 (2192)	.39 (2614)	.19 (2398)	.58 (3108)	.22 (2094)	.17 (2192)
5.	SRA (f)					.49 (2037)	.41 (2371)	.21 (2185)	.19 (2095)	.65 (2806)	.17 (2037)
6.	STAN (f)						.34 (2537)	.17 (2331)	.14 (2192)	.20 (2037)	.67 (3007)
7.	WFB (m)							.26 (2873)	.29 (2615)	.29 (2371)	.22 (2537)
8.	CAT (m)								.24 (2399)	.25 (2185)	.18 (2231)
9.	CTBS (m)									.21 (2095)	.19 (2192)
10.	SRA (m)										.18 (2037)
11.	STAN (m)										

Note: All correlations in the matrix were significant $p < .001$. BASIC = final grade level. (f) = first grade level of occurrence. (m) = modal grade level of occurrence (n) = number of cases (words)

Appendix
Kindergarten

a	K	into	K	who	K
all	1	is	K	will	K
am	1	it	K	with	K
an	K	its	K	work	K
and	K	kitten	K	yellow	K
are	K	little	K	yes	K
as	2	look	K	you	K
at	K	mad	1	zoo	K
away	K	me	K		
back	K	mud	K		
ball	K	my	1		
bell	K	name	K		
big	K	no	K		
bird	K	not	K		
blue	K	of	K		
book	K	on	K		
boot	K	or	1		
box	K	out	K		
boy	K	paint	K		
brown	K	pet	K		
but	K	pin	1		
by	K	play	K		
can	K	put	K		
car	K	rain	K		
cat	K	red	K		
come	K	run	K		
cow	1	sad	K		
day	K	say	K		
do	K	see	K		
dog	K	she	K		
down	K	sing	K		
end	K	sit	1		
fall	1	so	1		
fan	K	stay	K		
fish	K	stop	K		
fly	K	story	K		
food	K	sun	K		
for	K	take	1		
from	K	that	K		
fun	K	the	K		
get	K	them	1		
go	K	then	K		
good	K	there	K		
gray	K	they	K		
green	1	this	1		
groundhog	K	to	K		
hat	1	too	K		
he	K	up	K		
here	K	we	K		
hill	K	wet	K		
I	K	what	K		
in	K	where	K		

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

First grade

about	1	chain	K	five	K	jet	1
add	1	chicken	K	follow	2	job	1
afraid	1	child	K	forget	2	joy	3
after	K	city	1	four	1	jump	K
again	K	class	K	fresh	1	just	K
ago	K	clock	1	Friday	1	kind	1
airplane	K	close	1	friend	K	king	K
also	1	cloth	K	frog	1	kite	K
always	K	cloud	K	front	K	know	K
animal	2	clown	K	fur	1	lady	7
ant	1	coat	K	game	K	lake	1
apple	1	cold	K	gay	K	lamb	1
ask	K	color	2	gentle	1	land	K
baby	K	cook	1	girl	K	last	1
bad	1	cookie	K	give	K	late	1
bag	1	corner	K	glad	K	laugh	1
balloon	1	could	K	glass	K	lay	K
bark	1	crayon	1	goat	K	learn	1
barn	2	cry	K	god	7	leave	1
be	K	cup	1	gold	1	left	1
bean	1	cut	K	grass	1	leg	1
bear	1	dad	1	guess	1	let	K
because	K	dark	K	gun	3	letter	K
bed	1	dish	K	ham	1	light	K
bee	1	doll	K	hand	K	like	K
before	K	dot	3	hang	1	lion	1
begin	1	draw	K	happen	K	live	K
behind	1	dream	1	happy	K	long	K
best	K	dress	1	hard	K	love	2
better	K	drink	2	have	K	lunch	K
bike	1	dry	1	head	K	mail	1
black	2	duck	K	hear	1	make	1
boat	K	early	1	hello	3	mama	4
both	K	eat	K	help	K	man	K
bowl	K	edge	3	hen	1	many	1
bread	1	egg	K	her	K	map	2
breakfast	1	eight	1	high	K	may	1
bring	2	elephant	1	him	K	maybe	K
bunny	1	else	K	home	K	mean	1
bus	K	even	K	honey	1	meet	K
bush	1	eye	1	hop	1	might	K
butterfly	2	fair	2	horn	1	milk	K
button	1	far	1	horse	K	miss	K
cage	1	farm	K	hot	K	mom	1
cake	1	fast	K	hotdog	3	Monday	1
calf	K	fat	K	hour	2	money	1
call	K	father	K	house	K	monkey	2
camp	K	feed	K	how	K	moon	K
cap	1	feet	1	huge	K	more	K
card	K	find	1	hurry	1	morning	K
care	1	fire	K	ice	1	mother	K
cart	K	firefighter	-	if	K	mouse	K
catch	K	first	K	inside	1	much	1
cave	1	fit	1	jam	1	must	1

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

First grade

nap	2	ready	K	Sunday	1	when	K
near	K	ribbon	1	sure	1	which	2
need	K	ride	1	surprise	K	white	K
nest	1	right	1	swim	1	why	1
new	K	ring	1	table	K	wild	K
next	K	road	1	tail	1	window	1
nice	K	rocket	K	talk	K	wing	K
night	K	room	K	tell	1	winter	1
nine	1	rope	1	ten	1	wish	K
none	K	row	3	than	K	wolf	1
nothing	2	Saturday	1	thank	K	woman	1
now	K	saw	K	their	K	word	K
off	2	school	K	these	K	would	K
old	K	sea	1	thing	K	write	1
once	1	seal	K	think	K	year	1
one	K	second	1	those	1	yell	K
only	1	seed	1	three	K		
onto	2	send	1	Thursday	1		
open	K	seven	1	tie	1		
other	K	sheep	1	tiger	2		
our	1	ship	2	time	K		
over	K	shoe	1	tiny	K		
page	1	shop	1	today	K		
pan	1	should	3	tomorrow	2		
papa	4	shout	1	toss	3		
paper	K	show	1	town	1		
part	1	side	K	toy	K		
party	1	sign	1	train	1		
pass	3	silly	2	trap	1		
pay	K	six	1	tree	K		
peanut	1	sky	K	trick	K		
pen	1	sled	1	trip	2		
pencil	1	sleep	K	truck	1		
penny	1	small	1	Tuesday	1		
people	K	snake	K	turn	1		
person	1	snow	1	turtle	1		
pick	1	sock	K	two	K		
picture	1	some	K	under	1		
pig	1	song	1	until	1		
place	K	soon	K	use	1		
plane	K	sorry	1	very	K		
plate	K	spell	2	wagon	K		
pocket	K	spin	K	wait	1		
pony	1	spot	2	walk	1		
pool	K	spring	K	want	K		
pop	2	squirrel	1	was	K		
print	K	star	1	watch	K		
promise	1	start	1	water	K		
proud	1	step	1	way	2		
pull	K	still	1	Wednesday	1		
push	1	store	K	week	2		
rabbit	K	street	K	well	K		
race	3	string	K	were	K		
read	1	summer	1	whale	K		

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Second grade

able	2	brave	2	cub	2	few	3
above	2	break	3	cupcake	11	field	2
across	2	bridge	2	cupid	-	fifteen	3
act	2	bright	K	dance	1	fifty	3
address	3	brook	K	dear	2	fight	K
age	2	brother	K	December	2	fill	1
ahead	2	brush	2	decide	2	fine	2
air	K	bucket	2	deep	2	finger	2
alarm	3	bug	1	deer	3	finish	2
alligator	4	bump	2	deliver	3	fix	1
almost	2	bun	2	design	2	flag	1
along	1	burn	2	desk	3	flake	-
angel	-	butcher	3	dig	2	flap	2
another	2	butter	3	dinner	3	flat	2
answer	2	buy	K	direction	3	float	2
any	1	candle	K	dive	2	floor	K
April	2	candy	2	doctor	K	flour	2
August	3	canoe	2	dollar	2	flower	1
aunt	K	carrot	3	donkey	2	fold	2
autumn	3	carry	2	door	K	foot	K
bake	1	caterpillar	3	dough	4	forest	K
ballet	7	cellar	2	doughnut	-	fork	3
banana	3	cent	2	dragon	2	forty	3
band	2	center	2	drain	2	forward	3
bandit	K	cereal	2	drip	-	found	1
bank	2	chair	K	drive	2	fourteen	3
bar	6	chance	1	driveway	6	fowl	K
basement	2	chase	2	drop	2	fox	1
basket	K	cheek	K	dumb	5	free	2
beach	2	cheer	2	during	2	fruit	K
beef	7	cheese	K	each	K	full	K
beehive	3	cherry	2	eagle	2	gallon	3
beep	5	chin	2	ear	K	garden	1
behave	4	chips	2	east	2	gate	2
believe	K	choice	K	easy	1	gather	1
belong	2	choose	2	eighteen	7	giant	3
below	3	chop	2	eighty	5	glasses	2
belt	3	chuckle	2	eleven	4	glue	3
beside	2	circle	K	empty	2	gobble	3
between	3	circus	1	enjoy	3	good-bye	-
bicycle	2	climb	2	enough	1	goose	3
bit	2	coach	3	enter	2	granny	-
bite	2	copy	3	evening	2	gravy	-
blame	2	corn	2	every	2	great	K
blanket	K	correct	2	face	K	greet	3
bless	2	count	2	fairy	3	grin	2
block	4	country	1	family	2	grocery	3
blossom	2	cover	2	fancy	3	ground	1
blow	2	cowboy	5	fear	2	group	2
body	K	cracker	-	feather	2	grow	K
boil	3	crazy	3	February	3	grumpy	3
bottle	2	cross	1	feel	1	gum	4
bottom	2	crow	1	felt	1	hair	2
branch	2	crust	4	fence	2	half	2

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Second grade

hall	3	lid	2	often	2	puddle	3
hamburger	K	life	2	oil	2	pup	4
hammer	2	lift	2	orange	3	purple	2
handle	2	likely	2	outside	K	quack	2
hardly	1	limit	2	oven	3	quart	2
hate	3	line	1	owl	2	question	2
heat	1	listen	2	own	1	quick	3
heavy	2	lock	K	oxygen	3	quiet	K
helicopter	4	lot	1	pair	3	quit	2
helium	4	loud	2	pancake	4	radio	3
hide	K	low	2	pants	2	rag	2
hit	1	luck	3	parade	K	rainbow	3
hold	K	magic	1	parent	3	raise	2
hole	K	magnet	3	park	K	ranch	1
hood	K	March	2	parrot	2	rare	5
hope	2	mark	2	past	3	real	2
hug	1	mask	2	paste	4	record	K
humor	5	meal	3	pat	1	reindeer	3
hundred	2	measure	2	path	2	rest	2
hunt	3	meat	3	paw	1	return	1
hurt	1	medicine	4	peach	2	rich	2
hut	2	melt	3	pear	3	river	2
idea	2	merry	3	peel	-	roar	3
important	2	middle	2	peep	4	robin	4
ink	4	mile	3	pepper	5	rock	K
island	2	mine	2	perfect	2	roll	2
jacket	3	minus	11	phone	K	roof	1
January	2	minute	3	picnic	1	rooster	3
jar	K	mirror	5	pie	K	rose	1
jay	2	mix	2	piece	2	round	2
jeans	2	month	2	pile	2	rub	1
jelly	3	most	2	pink	2	rug	3
join	1	mountain	2	pipe	2	rush	1
joke	2	mouth	2	pizza	3	safe	1
jolly	3	move	K	plain	3	sail	2
judge	2	music	2	plan	2	salad	2
juice	3	nail	2	plant	K	salt	2
July	2	needle	3	please	K	same	3
June	1	neighbor	3	plus	6	sand	1
keep	1	net	K	point	K	sandwich	2
key	2	never	1	police	2	sauce	2
kill	4	nineteen	5	poor	1	sausage	7
kitchen	1	ninety	3	popcorn	2	save	1
knife	3	noise	1	possible	4	scare	2
ladder	2	noon	1	postcard	-	science	3
ladybug	2	north	2	pot	1	scissors	4
lamp	K	nose	K	pour	2	score	2
large	2	note	2	power	2	scratch	2
lawyer	2	November	4	practice	2	season	5
lazy	2	number	3	present	1	seat	K
leaf	2	nut	K	press	1	seem	3
less	3	ocean	2	pretty	K	self	3
lesson	2	October	3	prize	2	selfish	5
library	2	odd	3	pudding	-	sell	2

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Second grade

September	1	stream	K	ugly	2
set	1	strong	1	uncle	1
seventeen	6	stupid	-	understand	3
seventy	3	subtract	1	upon	3
shake	1	such	2	upset	2
shall	2	sudden	4	valentine	-
shape	3	sugar	3	van	-
sheet	2	supper	3	vegetables	2
shell	2	sweet	2	visit	2
shirt	2	syrup	3	voice	2
short	1	tadpole	5	wake	2
shovel	2	tall	K	wall	1
shut	2	tape	2	wander	2
signal	3	taste	2	warm	1
since	3	tattle	-	wash	K
sink	2	teach	3	wave	1
sister	2	tear	4	wear	2
sixteen	2	television	2	weed	2
sixty	3	test	K	weekend	2
size	2	thin	1	welcome	5
skate	2	thirteen	3	west	2
skirt	3	thirty	3	while	K
sleigh	7	thought	K	whisker	4
slide	2	throat	2	whisper	2
slow	1	through	1	wide	2
smart	2	throw	K	wind	1
smell	1	thumb	2	wise	2
smile	K	tick	2	without	2
smoke	K	tip	5	wonder	2
snack	6	tire	1	wool	2
soak	2	title	2	world	2
soft	1	toad	2	worm	5
sound	2	toast	3	worry	2
soup	2	toe	2	wrong	1
south	2	together	1	yard	K
speak	2	tonight	2	yesterday	2
speed	2	tool	2	yet	4
spend	2	tooth	2	yolk	-
spider	3	top	K	young	2
spill	3	toward	3		
splash	K	tower	5		
split	2	track	2		
spoon	3	tractor	3		
sprinkle	2	travel	3		
stamp	K	treat	3		
stand	1	trot	5		
stare	2	trouble	2		
state	K	true	2		
station	4	trunk	2		
stick	2	try	2		
stir	4	turkey	2		
stove	K	twelve	2		
strange	1	twenty	2		
strawberry	6	twig	2		

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Third grade

aboard	3	Atlantic	3	birth	3	capital	2
accident	3	attack	K	bitter	5	captain	3
ache	2	attention	3	blackboard	-	cardboard	3
adopt	-	attic	5	bleed	3	caribou	3
adult	3	attitude	5	blend	5	carol	1
adventure	3	Australia	4	blink	4	carpenter	4
adverb	3	author	3	bloom	3	carpet	3
advice	3	autograph	-	blot	2	cartoon	5
Africa	3	automobile	3	board	2	carve	3
against	3	avenue	4	boast	3	case	2
agree	4	award	3	bone	3	castle	2
aim	3	aware	5	bonnet	3	cattail	-
airport	3	awful	3	born	2	cattle	4
Alabama	5	awhile	4	borrow	5	cause	2
Alaska	3	babe	5	boss	3	caution	3
album	5	baboon	-	bother	4	caw	2
alert	4	backward	6	bounce	4	ceiling	2
alley	6	bacon	3	bow	3	celebrate	2
allow	5	badge	3	bowling	6	celery	6
alphabet	4	balcony	5	bracelet	2	cell	5
already	K	bald	7	braid	11	cemetery	7
although	3	bandaid	-	brain	5	certain	3
ambulance	6	bang	7	breath	3	chalk	5
America	3	barbecue	-	breeze	2	chalkboard	7
among	3	bare	3	brick	3	change	2
amount	3	baseball	K	broke	2	charge	2
amuse	3	basketball	2	broom	K	chart	3
anger	5	bath	3	brownie	3	cheat	7
announce	3	bathroom	9	bubble	3	check	2
annoy	5	batter	4	buckle	4	cheep	-
Antarctica	5	battery	4	bud	4	chest	3
anxious	3	bead	3	buffalo	3	chew	3
apart	3	beak	5	buggy	-	Chicago	3
apartment	K	beam	3	build	2	chief	3
ape	6	beard	7	bulb	5	chili	-
apology	7	beast	3	bum	-	chimney	3
apostrophe	-	beat	1	bunch	4	chimpanzee	4
appear	3	beauty	3	bundle	3	chipmunk	-
approve	-	beaver	3	bunk	-	chocolate	3
apron	-	become	3	burglar	-	chunk	-
area	3	beetle	-	burro	3	church	3
argue	3	beg	-	burst	4	churn	3
arithmetic	3	being	3	bury	-	clam	3
Arizona	4	belly	3	business	3	clap	3
Arkansas	4	bench	3	busy	3	claw	3
arm	2	bend	2	buzz	-	clay	2
army	3	beneath	4	cab	3	clean	1
arrange	3	berry	4	cabin	3	clear	2
arrive	3	bet	3	cactus	4	clever	3
arrow	3	Bethlehem	-	California	4	cliff	2
art	3	beware	3	calm	3	clip	3
article	5	bib	-	camera	3	clop	-
Asia	4	bible	-	canyon	3	clothing	3
ass	-	bill	K	cape	6	clover	5

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Third grade

club	4	crooked	2	double	3	falcon	7
cluck	-	crop	3	downtown	3	false	2
clue	2	crowd	1	dozen	3	familiar	4
coast	4	crown	3	drag	5	faucet	5
cob	2	cruel	4	drawer	1	fault	3
cocoon	-	cube	2	dread	6	feast	3
code	7	cucumber	-	drift	4	fellow	6
coin	3	curious	3	drown	-	female	4
collar	4	curl	2	drowsy	9	fern	3
Colorado	4	curtain	5	drug	3	fib	-
colt	3	curve	3	drugstore	5	fiction	3
column	4	customer	3	drum	1	fierce	3
comb	3	cute	4	dull	3	fife	-
comfort	4	daffodil	4	dump	4	figure	3
comma	-	dairy	4	dust	K	final	5
command	3	daisy	3	dwarf	7	fir	4
common	4	Dallas	4	eager	4	firecracker	-
community	3	damp	4	eardrum	-	firehouse	4
company	3	dandelion	-	earn	3	fireworks	6
complain	3	danger	2	earth	3	firm	2
complete	2	dare	3	either	4	fist	3
cone	1	dash	2	elastic	6	flame	4
Connecticut	5	daughter	4	elbow	-	flash	2
consonant	-	dead	4	electric	3	flee	5
content	3	deal	3	elementary	4	flop	-
contest	2	deck	3	elf	3	Florida	3
continue	3	Delaware	3	elm	5	flow	3
cool	2	delicious	3	encyclopedia	4	flush	7
copper	4	delight	6	enemy	3	flutter	10
coral	4	denominator	6	energy	3	fog	3
corral	4	dent	5	engine	3	foil	7
cost	3	Denver	3	entertain	4	folder	3
costume	3	department	3	entrance	6	fool	3
cotton	3	describe	4	equator	3	football	4
county	3	desert	1	erase	6	force	3
courage	4	desire	3	errand	-	forever	2
course	4	dessert	4	escape	2	forgive	6
court	4	devil	11	Europe	-	form	2
cowhand	-	diamond	4	ever	3	forth	3
cozy	3	diaper	6	evil	4	fossil	3
crab	1	dictionary	3	exact	3	fountain	3
crack	3	die	3	exam	7	foursquare	-
craft	4	difficult	4	excite	9	frame	9
cranberry	-	digit	3	exclaim	4	freeze	4
crank	9	dim	4	excuse	4	frost	4
crash	3	dime	4	exit	3	frown	2
crawl	3	dinosaur	4	experiment	4	fry	-
cream	3	direct	5	explain	5	fudge	3
creature	3	dirt	2	explore	3	fuel	3
creek	2	discover	4	extra	3	fulcrum	11
creep	3	distant	3	fact	3	garage	3
cricket	K	disturb	3	factory	3	garbage	4
crisp	7	dock	K	faint	3	gas	3
crocodile	4	dodge	4	fake	6	gasp	-

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Third grade

gaze	4	highway	3	kangaroo	4	Louisiana	4
Georgia	2	hip	7	Kansas	9	lullaby	-
germ	5	hippopotamus	5	kennel	-	lump	3
germinate	11	hire	3	Kentucky	4	machine	3
ghost	2	hive	3	kick	2	magazine	3
gift	1	hollow	3	kindergarten	-	maid	3
giggle	-	holster	-	kingdom	3	main	4
giraffe	4	honest	4	kiss	-	Maine	5
glide	4	honk	-	kit	5	major	3
globe	4	honor	3	knee	2	makeup	6
glove	5	hook	4	kneel	9	male	5
goodnight	4	hoop	-	knock	2	mall	6
gorilla	5	hopscotch	5	knot	2	mammal	3
gown	5	hose	2	label	2	manhole	-
grab	5	hospital	3	lace	3	Manila	-
grade	3	hotel	3	lad	2	manner	6
graham	7	hound	3	lane	2	margarine	6
grain	5	Houston	6	language	K	margin	9
grand	3	howl	3	lap	4	market	3
grandparent	-	hum	-	larva	3	marry	6
grape	8	human	4	lasso	-	marshal	11
grapefruit	11	hunger	4	law	3	marshmallow	6
graph	3	hurrah	-	lawn	3	Maryland	5
growl	-	husband	3	lead	2	Massachusetts	5
grown-up	-	husky	6	leak	6	mat	8
guard	4	hydrant	-	lean	3	match	K
guest	4	icicle	3	least	3	matter	4
guitar	3	Idaho	6	leather	3	mayor	3
gull	2	identify	4	lemon	3	meadow	2
gulp	-	ill	3	length	3	medal	7
habit	3	Illinois	5	leopard	3	member	4
hamster	3	impossible	5	lettuce	3	mention	5
handkerchief	4	inch	3	level	3	meow	3
handsome	4	indeed	3	lick	-	message	2
hangar	-	index	5	lie	3	metal	3
harbor	3	Indiana	5	lighthouse	3	meter	2
harm	3	indoors	4	lightning	6	method	4
harp	3	inn	3	lilac	-	Miami	1
harvest	3	insect	5	limb	3	Michigan	5
hatch	3	instead	3	lip	4	microscope	3
Hawaii	7	instrument	3	liquid	4	microwave	3
hawk	3	interest	3	list	3	midget	-
hay	3	invite	3	liter	2	mild	4
headline	-	Iowa	5	lizard	3	mill	3
heap	4	iron	3	load	3	million	3
heart	3	item	3	loaf	2	mind	4
heel	2	jail	5	lobster	5	Minnesota	5
height	3	jeep	7	log	2	Mississippi	4
hell	-	jerk	3	lollipop	-	Missouri	5
helmet	-	jigsaw	-	lone	2	mist	7
hem	-	jingle	5	loop	3	mistake	2
herd	3	joint	3	loose-leaf	9	moan	2
hero	4	journey	3	Los Angeles	-	modern	4
hibernate	6	jungle	3	lose	1	modest	2

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Third grade

mold	3	object	3	pillow	2	quarter	3
moment	2	offer	4	pilot	4	queen	6
monster	3	office	2	pine	3	queer	-
Montana	4	officer	3	pint	3	quicksand	-
moo	-	Ohio	5	pioneer	4	quite	4
moose	4	okay	5	pirate	5	quiz	8
mosquito	5	*Oklahoma*	8	*pistil*	5	*radish*	4
moss	4	olive	3	pitch	3	railroad	3
motel	-	onion	3	pitcher	3	raisin	-
moth	4	opinion	3	planet	3	rake	5
motor	4	opposite	3	plastic	3	range	5
mound	2	orbit	2	plenty	3	raspberry	-
mow	-	orchard	4	plow	3	rat	4
mulberry	-	order	3	plug	4	rather	3
mule	4	Oregon	2	poem	5	reach	2
mumps	-	otter	4	poke	4	rear	8
museum	3	ought	3	pole	2	reason	2
mush	2	outdoors	3	polite	3	recess	5
mushroom	3	oval	9	pollen	4	recite	2
mutter	4	overhead	5	pond	3	rectangle	4
mystery	3	ox	9	poplar	3	refuse	3
narrow	2	Pacific	4	poppy	-	regular	4
nation	4	pack	K	porch	3	relax	3
neat	2	paddle	-	post	4	relief	2
Nebraska	5	pageant	6	poster	5	religion	4
neck	2	pail	3	potato	3	remain	1
necklace	2	pain	2	pound	4	remember	3
neither	5	pajamas	3	praise	2	remind	3
nephew	3	pal	9	pray	-	remove	3
nervous	3	palace	3	prepare	2	rent	7
Nevada	8	pale	3	president	3	repair	1
New Hampshire	-	palm	3	pretend	3	reply	2
New Jersey	-	pane	6	prince	3	report	3
New Mexico	-	pant	3	problem	3	reptile	3
New York	-	parka	4	produce	3	respect	4
news	3	partridge	-	professor	3	restaurant	5
nickel	4	passage	3	pronoun	-	reward	3
nickname	6	pasture	6	pronounce	4	rhinoceros	6
niece	8	patch	K	proper	2	Rhode Island	-
nimble	-	pattern	3	protect	2	rhyme	7
nobody	3	peacock	12	protest	5	rhythm	9
nod	-	peas	3	prove	4	rib	2
noodle	5	pedal	6	provide	3	rice	3
North America	-	peek	-	puff	2	rid	6
North Carolina	-	penguin	4	pump	3	riddle	3
North Dakota	-	Pennsylvania	3	pumpkin	4	rink	2
notice	4	perhaps	3	punish	3	rip	3
noun	4	perimeter	3	pupil	4	ripe	2
numeral	3	period	3	puppet	2	ripple	4
nurse	2	pest	3	pure	4	roam	2
o'clock	1	petal	5	purr	5	roast	3
oak	3	piano	3	purse	3	rob	2
oatmeal	-	pigeon	3	pus	-	robe	5
obey	4	pilgrim	9	puzzle	11	robot	7

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Third grade

Rockies	-	shiver	11	sow	7	switch	3
rod	6	shock	7	space	3	sword	3
rodeo	3	shoot	2	spank	-	symbol	3
root	3	shore	3	spare	3	system	4
rubber	3	shorts	7	spark	-	tablespoon	6
rude	3	shove	4	special	1	taco	5
ruin	4	shrimp	3	speech	3	tag	4
rule	3	shrink	3	spoil	3	tale	3
sack	5	shy	4	spray	6	tan	3
saddle	5	sick	3	spy	3	tap	3
sale	K	sidewalk	2	square	3	task	5
sample	K	sigh	K	squawk	-	taxi	-
San Francisco	-	sight	4	squeak	K	tea	2
sap	3	signature	7	squeal	-	team	3
satin	-	silent	3	squeeze	3	teapot	4
satisfy	5	silk	4	stable	5	tease	9
saucer	-	sill	-	stack	2	teaspoon	4
scale	K	silver	3	stairs	2	telephone	3
scar	2	simple	2	stamen	5	temperature	3
scarf	3	sin	-	starfish	5	tender	3
scatter	4	single	4	starve	7	Tennessee	5
schedule	6	sip	12	statue	3	tent	3
scold	3	sir	4	steal	5	terrible	2
scoop	7	skeleton	3	steam	3	terror	3
scrapbook	-	ski	11	steer	3	tether	-
scrape	4	skill	5	stem	4	Texas	1
scream	4	skin	4	stew	4	thermometer	3
screen	6	skip	9	sticker	4	thick	2
scribble	-	skunk	3	stiff	3	thief	3
scrub	-	skyscraper	5	stocking	-	thirst	3
search	3	slap	3	stomach	4	though	2
secret	2	slave	3	stone	1	thousand	3
section	3	sleeve	5	stool	3	thread	3
seize	4	slice	5	storm	2	thunder	3
select	2	slime	3	straight	3	ticket	K
sense	2	slowpoke	-	strap	4	tickle	K
sentence	2	slumber	7	straw	12	tight	4
separate	5	smash	-	strike	3	tights	-
serious	3	smooth	2	strip	5	till	2
serve	3	snap	3	stripe	4	tin	4
settle	2	sneeze	4	student	3	tinfoil	-
several	3	sniff	3	study	3	ting	-
sew	3	snob	-	stuff	5	toboggan	-
shade	2	soap	2	substance	3	tomato	3
shadow	5	soar	2	suit	4	ton	3
share	5	sob	-	sundae	-	tongue	4
sharp	2	soda	4	supermarket	7	tortoise	-
shave	-	soil	2	surface	3	touch	2
shed	5	soldier	4	swallow	4	touchdown	9
shelf	2	son	3	sweater	3	towel	4
shelter	4	sort	5	sweep	2	trace	2
shepherd	3	sour	3	swing	K	trade	5
sheriff	3	South Carolina	-	swirl	3	traffic	3
shine	2	South Dakota	-	swish	-	trail	2

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Third grade

trailer	3	wed	-
trash	4	weep	2
tray	3	weigh	3
treasure	3	West Virginia	-
tremble	3	wheat	3
triangle	3	wheel	4
tribe	2	wheelbarrow	-
trickle	-	whether	5
troll	-	whimper	-
trust	3	whip	-
tub	K	whir	-
tube	3	whistle	4
tug	2	whole	3
tulip	4	whoop	-
tune	6	whoosh	-
tunnel	3	wicked	4
twin	1	wife	9
twist	4	wig	1
type	3	wiggle	-
ukulele	-	willow	3
umbrella	5	win	3
underneath	4	windmill	9
unit	3	wink	2
United States	-	wipe	3
unless	3	wire	1
upward	2	Wisconsin	5
usual	3	witch	4
Utah	7	within	5
vacant	3	wood	3
vacation	3	woodpecker	4
valley	4	worse	3
value	4	worst	3
velvet	9	worth	2
verb	4	wound	9
Vermont	5	wow	-
vest	3	wrap	3
village	4	wreck	3
violin	3	wriggle	-
Virginia	5	wrist	3
vowel	4	Wyoming	5
voyage	3	yarn	3
waffle	-	yawn	3
wag	3	yeast	6
wail	5	zebra	9
waist	3	zip	11
waiter	8	zoom	-
war	2		
warn	3		
Washington	2		
waste	2		
watermelon	4		
weak	3		
weary	2		
weather	3		

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fourth grade

abbreviate	2	aspirin	3	bibliography	6	bulletin	4
absent	4	assign	6	bid	4	bully	7
absorb	4	assortment	8	billion	6	buoy	-
accent	5	athlete	4	biography	7	burp	-
accept	3	Atlanta	3	birch	-	burrow	5
accordion	-	atlas	4	blacksmith	4	bushel	9
accuse	4	atmosphere	5	blade	6	butler	-
ace	3	atom	4	blank	2	butte	-
acid	3	attach	3	blast	5	buttercup	-
acorn	-	attend	4	blaze	4	cabbage	6
acrobat	6	attract	4	bleacher	-	cable	4
actual	3	audience	4	bleat	-	caboose	-
adjective	4	auditorium	4	blind	4	calendar	3
adjust	6	auto	5	blizzard	5	calorie	5
admire	3	average	3	blood	5	Canada	2
admit	6	avoid	4	blouse	-	canary	5
affair	7	awe	7	blurt	-	cancel	7
afford	3	awkward	5	blush	7	cane	5
agriculture	6	axe	-	bobsled	-	capable	4
aid	3	axle	4	bold	5	capacity	4
airline	4	babble	-	bomb	-	capillary	-
aisle	5	background	4	bonus	6	capitol	7
alfalfa	7	balance	3	bookworm	4	capsule	4
algae	5	bale	-	booth	4	capture	3
almanac	5	ballad	7	border	4	caramel	-
aloud	5	ballpoint	5	Boston	3	carbohydrate	7
altitude	4	ballroom	-	bough	-	carbon	3
aluminum	4	Baltic	7	boulder	4	career	5
amaze	4	bamboo	5	bound	6	carnation	-
ambush	-	bandage	5	bounty	4	carnival	3
anchor	4	banjo	-	bouquet	-	carriage	8
Anchorage	-	banner	4	brag	-	carton	3
ancient	3	banquet	3	braille	4	cartwheel	-
Andes	4	bargain	4	brake	-	cash	4
ankle	5	barrel	4	brand	4	casserole	6
anniversary	5	barrow	-	brass	5	cassette	7
annual	4	barter	-	breast	7	cast	K
antelope	-	base	3	brew	6	catsup	-
anthem	-	basic	4	bride	5	cauliflower	10
antonym	-	basin	4	brief	3	cavern	-
appetite	4	bat	1	brilliant	4	cedar	7
applaud	5	batch	-	brim	4	cello	-
appreciate	5	baton	-	brisk	4	cellophane	-
approach	2	battle	4	broad	3	Celsius	5
approximate	3	bawl	-	bronze	5	cement	3
apricot	7	bay	K	brow	4	Centigrade	-
aquarium	3	beagle	5	bruise	4	centipede	-
arch	4	bedspread	-	buddy	-	century	4
arctic	3	beer	-	budge	2	challenge	8
ark	3	beet	3	budget	5	champion	3
arrest	-	behold	-	buffet	-	channel	5
artificial	4	beige	-	bull	7	chant	7
ash	7	belch	-	bulldog	5	chap	5
aspen	-	beyond	6	bullet	6	chapel	-

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fourth grade

chapter	3	comic	3	crouch	-	dice	5
character	4	comment	5	crowbar	-	diet	4
charcoal	3	commercial	4	crumb	-	dine	K
chariot	6	committee	5	crunch	-	dioxide	3
charm	3	communicate	4	crush	4	dip	4
cheap	2	compass	3	crystal	8	disappoint	9
checkers	5	compose	-	cuckoo	-	disaster	5
chemical	3	compound	7	cuddle	-	discipline	5
chestnut	-	concentrate	4	culture	5	discourage	9
chill	-	concert	5	cumulus	-	discuss	7
China	4	condition	4	cupboard	5	disguise	4
chip	K	congruent	3	cure	3	displace	-
chirp	4	conjunction	-	current	4	dissolve	5
choir	7	consider	4	custom	4	ditch	4
choke	-	consist	6	cycle	3	divide	3
chord	4	constellation	5	cylinder	3	dizzy	4
chore	5	constitute	-	cymbal	-	dodo	11
chorus	4	construct	7	dab	4	dome	3
chow	-	contagious	-	dam	5	doodle	7
chubby	-	contain	4	damage	4	doubt	4
chuck	3	continent	4	dandy	-	dove	4
chug	-	contrary	8	dart	5	downpour	6
cigar	-	control	4	date	3	doze	11
cinder	-	convenient	9	dawn	3	drab	9
cirrus	-	convince	4	daze	6	drama	7
citizen	4	coop	-	deadline	-	drape	-
clang	-	cooperate	4	deaf	3	drawbridge	-
clank	-	cord	3	death	5	dribble	-
clarinet	8	core	4	deciduous	-	drill	3
clasp	-	cork	K	decimal	5	drizzle	10
clatter	-	cot	-	decrease	4	drought	5
click	10	cottage	4	defend	5	duel	-
climate	3	cottonwood	-	define	4	duke	K
cling	9	cougar	-	definite	3	dunce	7
clink	-	cough	5	degree	4	dune	-
closet	4	council	4	den	4	dung	-
clump	-	counter	4	denomination	-	dungeon	7
clumsy	2	couple	6	dense	4	earthquake	3
cluster	-	coupon	6	deny	7	ease	7
clutch	-	courteous	7	depend	4	echo	4
coal	3	courtyard	-	deposit	5	educate	12
coarse	7	cousin	3	depot	9	effect	5
cobra	6	coward	4	deputy	11	effort	4
cocoa	5	coyote	4	deserve	12	electron	4
cod	7	cradle	5	desperate	5	elegant	4
coffee	4	crate	-	destroy	4	element	4
coffin	-	creak	5	detergent	11	elk	-
coil	-	create	5	detour	-	elsewhere	7
coliseum	9	crew	7	Detroit	4	embarrass	11
collect	3	crib	6	develop	4	emergency	7
college	4	crime	4	dew	6	empire	7
collie	5	croak	4	diagram	3	England	4
colony	4	crook	5	dial	5	enlarge	4
comet	4	crossword	4	diary	5	enormous	2

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fourth grade

enthusiasm	4	fling	6	glitter	3	harsh	5
entire	4	flip	-	gloom	5	Hartford	-
envelope	4	flipper	-	glossary	4	hatchet	2
equal	3	flock	5	glow	5	haul	5
equilateral	-	flood	4	gnaw	4	hazard	5
error	4	fluff	-	goal	6	hazel	-
erupt	11	fluid	4	goblin	-	headdress	-
essay	6	flute	3	goggles	7	headquarters	7
establish	5	foam	11	goldenrod	-	heal	5
estimate	3	folk	5	golf	5	health	3
evaporate	6	forbid	6	gong	-	heave	-
event	4	ford	7	gossip	-	heaven	-
evidence	3	forearm	11	grace	3	hedge	5
example	3	forehead	-	gradual	4	hemisphere	5
excellent	5	foreign	3	graduate	9	hesitate	6
except	4	foreword	7	gram	2	hiccup	-
exchange	4	fort	6	grammar	7	hike	3
exercise	4	fortune	7	grasshopper	5	hind	4
exhale	-	foul	7	grate	7	hinge	4
exhaust	-	fraction	3	grateful	4	hint	11
exhibit	4	freckle	-	gravity	3	hiss	-
exist	4	freeway	9	graze	4	history	4
expect	5	freshman	7	grease	5	hitch	3
expensive	4	fret	6	Great Britain	-	hobby	6
experience	4	friction	5	greenhouse	1	hobo	4
expert	4	frustrate	-	Greenland	4	hockey	10
express	4	fumble	-	greyhound	-	hoe	5
extend	7	fungus	5	griddle	-	holiday	3
eyebrow	-	furnace	4	grill	5	holler	-
eyelash	-	furnish	6	grind	4	holly	-
factor	5	furniture	3	grip	-	holy	11
fade	-	further	8	groan	3	homespun	11
Fahrenheit	4	future	4	groom	3	homonym	-
fail	2	gallop	-	grouch	-	hoof	-
faith	11	gander	-	grunt	5	hoot	K
fame	4	gang	5	guide	3	horizontal	7
fashion	4	gangplank	-	gulf	4	horror	5
fasten	4	gap	7	gully	6	household	7
favor	4	garter	-	guppy	-	however	4
fawn	-	gauze	-	gurgle	-	hubbub	-
fee	5	gear	5	gut	-	huckleberry	-
ferry	6	general	4	guy	-	huddle	4
festival	5	generous	4	gym	5	humble	2
fetch	-	genie	-	gypsy	-	humid	5
file	4	geography	4	hail	5	hunch	9
film	5	geranium	9	halo	-	hush	5
fin	5	Germany	3	hammock	7	hutch	-
finch	4	gigantic	6	handball	5	hydrogen	4
flannel	-	glacier	5	handcuff	-	hymn	6
flare	11	glance	6	hardware	6	hyphen	9
flask	3	glare	5	harmonica	9	iceberg	7
flavor	4	glaze	-	harpoon	-	icebox	-
flea	8	glimpse	4	Harrisburg	-	ideal	7
flesh	5	glisten	5	harrow	-	idle	4

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fourth grade

igloo	-	kimono	-	magnificent	5	mood	5
ignite	10	knit	-	magnify	7	mop	3
image	3	knothole	-	maintain	5	Moscow	7
imagine	3	knuckle	7	manage	4	motion	4
imitate	9	lab	9	mane	4	mount	-
immediate	9	labor	7	mantle	4	movie	1
improve	5	laboratory	7	manufacture	6	muff	-
increase	4	lack	4	manure	-	muffin	-
indent	-	ladle	-	maple	3	muffler	-
individual	5	lame	-	marble	4	mug	-
industry	5	lantern	7	marigold	7	muggy	-
influence	4	lariat	-	marmalade	10	multiply	3
inner	4	lark	-	Mars	4	mumble	4
inning	-	lash	-	mascot	5	mummy	5
innocent	4	lass	-	mash	4	munch	-
insist	4	latch	6	mast	5	muscle	7
inspect	-	launch	4	master	-	mustache	7
instant	5	lava	4	material	4	mustard	3
instruct	6	lavender	-	math	4	mutt	-
intelligent	5	layer	4	mattress	-	myth	5
interrupt	4	leap	2	maypole	-	nab	-
intestine	7	lease	10	McKinley	-	naked	6
introduce	7	ledge	3	meanwhile	6	napkin	-
invent	5	legend	4	mechanic	4	nasty	7
invisible	4	lens	5	medium	7	native	4
inward	6	lever	6	melody	-	nature	3
iodine	9	liar	-	melon	3	naughty	-
irrigate	6	liberty	4	memorial	8	navy	4
itch	4	licorice	-	memory	4	necessary	5
jabber	-	lily	6	Memphis	5	Neptune	6
jack	1	lime	3	mend	6	Netherlands	10
jackknife	-	limestone	4	mental	7	neutron	4
Jacksonville	5	limp	4	menu	5	New Orleans	-
janitor	5	lipstick	-	Mercury	4	nibble	5
Japan	4	litter	2	mermaid	4	nightmare	-
jaw	5	liver	7	mesa	7	nitrogen	3
jellyfish	5	llama	4	meteor	4	nook	9
jersey	4	loan	3	metric	4	nor	5
Jerusalem	7	lobby	9	Mexico	4	Norway	7
jewel	3	locate	1	midnight	3	notch	5
jewelry	4	locket	4	Milwaukee	9	novel	5
jig	5	lodge	8	minnow	-	nozzle	-
journal	5	London	3	minor	3	nucleus	4
jug	7	loom	9	mission	4	nudge	-
juggle	-	lope	7	mister	-	numb	4
junction	4	lord	5	mitt	3	nun	-
junior	5	loss	5	mittens	-	nuzzle	-
junk	4	lotion	8	moccasin	12	nylon	8
Jupiter	4	luggage	7	mock	-	oar	9
kernel	-	lumber	3	model	4	oasis	4
kettle	5	lunar	7	moderate	9	oats	7
keyboard	-	lurch	-	moist	4	oblong	4
kid	4	macaroni	-	mollusk	4	oboe	-
kidney	-	magma	11	monitor	4	observe	4

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fourth grade

occupation	5	perfume	9	portfolio	9	quiver	4
occur	6	permit	4	position	5	quotient	-
Omaha	5	Persia	4	positive	4	raccoon	2
omit	4	petticoat	-	postage	7	raccoon	-
ooze	-	petunia	-	postmaster	-	racket	5
operate	4	pheasant	8	postpone	-	raft	5
opportunity	5	Philadelphia	5	posture	7	rage	5
orchestra	5	Phoenix	4	poultry	4	rail	-
ordinary	6	phonograph	5	practical	6	railway	7
organ	12	photosynthesis	5	prairie	4	ramp	7
organize	5	phrase	3	preach	6	rapid	5
orient	-	piccolo	-	precious	4	rattle	5
oriole	-	pickle	5	precipitation	5	rattlesnake	4
ornament	5	pickup	4	predicate	4	raw	5
ornery	-	pigtail	-	prefer	4	ray	K
ostrich	7	pill	4	prefix	4	razor	9
ounce	4	pillar	-	preposition	-	realize	5
outfit	5	pinch	9	prevent	3	receipt	2
outskirts	-	pineapple	-	pride	7	receive	4
overalls	4	pinwheel	-	primary	5	recipe	4
owe	7	pistol	6	principal	4	recognize	5
pad	4	pit	3	prism	5	recover	6
padlock	4	pity	4	prison	5	redcoat	-
pantry	-	pixy	-	private	5	reduce	4
papoose	-	planetarium	4	process	4	redwood	11
parable	-	plaster	11	procrastinate	-	reed	6
parachute	9	plateau	4	product	4	regard	7
paraffin	7	platform	3	program	3	region	4
paragraph	3	platter	5	proof	4	regret	7
parallelogram	6	plaza	4	proofread	-	rein	-
parcel	6	plop	-	property	5	rely	6
pardon	-	plot	6	proton	4	remark	4
parenthesis	-	plum	3	protrude	11	repeat	7
participate	5	plumber	5	Providence	-	represent	4
particular	5	plump	5	prowl	5	rescue	3
partner	4	plural	6	public	3	research	6
passenger	4	Pluto	5	publish	5	reservoir	7
patent	9	pod	5	pulley	-	respond	5
patient	4	poet	5	pullover	-	responsible	4
patio	9	poison	4	pulse	3	result	4
patrol	4	policy	5	punch	4	reveal	5
pause	4	polish	4	punctuate	-	revoke	-
pave	-	polka	12	puncture	4	revolution	4
peace	4	poll	4	pupa	3	Richmond	-
peak	3	pollute	4	purpose	3	ridge	11
pearl	5	polygon	-	putter	-	rifle	6
pebble	4	poncho	-	pyramid	4	rigid	7
peck	7	poodle	6	quadrilateral	-	rinse	-
peer	5	popover	-	quail	10	rise	3
pelican	12	popular	3	qualify	6	rot	4
penetrate	4	porcupine	7	quarantine	5	rough	3
pennant	-	porpoise	5	quarrel	4	route	4
percussion	-	porridge	-	quartet	-	routine	6
perennial	7	port	3	quilt	5	royal	4

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fourth grade

ruby	2	shawl	5	sneak	3	sprout	5
ruff	-	sherbet	6	snicker	-	spur	7
ruffle	-	shift	-	snip	-	sputter	-
runaway	-	shipment	2	snoop	-	squash	8
rung	4	shortening	4	snooze	-	squat	5
runt	-	shorthand	-	snore	-	squaw	-
rural	4	shortstop	4	snort	-	squirm	-
Russia	4	shoulders	5	snub	-	squirt	5
rust	4	shred	5	snug	-	St. Louis	-
rustle	5	shrill	9	sober	7	staff	4
rustler	-	shrub	4	soccer	5	stage	3
sag	-	shrug	-	social	2	stagecoach	4
Sahara	4	shuffle	-	sofa	7	stain	7
sake	11	sideburns	-	softball	6	stale	-
salary	4	sideways	7	soggy	7	stalk	-
salmon	4	sierra	8	solar	4	stall	5
San Diego	-	sift	5	solid	3	stallion	-
sandal	-	silverware	-	solo	8	staple	7
sash	-	similar	4	solve	3	startle	4
satellite	4	simile	11	somersault	-	steadfast	-
Saturn	4	siren	10	somewhat	5	steady	4
sawmill	-	sissy	-	sonar	-	steak	4
saxophone	-	situation	6	soothe	5	steel	3
scalp	-	skein	-	sore	4	steep	4
scene	4	skid	7	source	5	steeple	-
scent	-	skillet	-	souvenir	-	sting	4
scoot	-	skim	11	soybean	-	stingy	9
scout	4	skinny	7	spa	-	stink	-
scowl	2	skittish	-	spaghetti	3	stitch	3
scramble	-	slab	-	Spain	4	stock	2
screw	9	slacks	7	spangle	-	stockade	-
screwdriver	6	slam	3	spaniel	-	stopwatch	-
scrimp	12	slang	-	sparrow	9	strain	5
scripture	-	slant	10	spat	-	strait	6
scum	-	slash	4	spatula	-	streak	8
seafood	6	sleet	6	spear	5	stretch	3
seam	K	slender	4	species	7	strict	11
Seattle	8	slick	7	speck	4	stride	-
seaweed	5	slight	4	spectacles	-	stroke	5
secretary	4	slim	4	sphere	4	stroll	8
secrete	-	sling	-	spice	11	structure	6
secure	5	slip	4	spike	-	struggle	7
seek	4	slop	-	spinach	3	strum	-
seldom	5	slug	-	spiral	5	stubborn	5
sensitive	6	sly	4	spit	-	stumble	-
series	4	smack	-	splice	-	stump	5
sermon	-	smear	-	splinter	-	sturdy	2
sewer	11	smith	3	sponge	4	subject	4
sex	5	smog	7	sponsor	9	submarine	3
shack	-	smokestack	-	spook	-	subway	2
shale	4	smother	4	spore	12	succeed	4
shallow	4	smudge	-	sport	3	suck	7
shame	8	snail	3	sprain	-	suffer	-
shampoo	4	snapdragon	-	spread	K	sufficient	5

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fourth grade

suffix	4	therefore	4	twine	-	whinny	4
suggest	5	thimble	-	twinkle	5	whirl	4
suitcase	5	thistle	-	twirl	-	wick	-
sum	4	thong	-	typewrite	-	wicker	-
sunflower	5	thorax	-	umpire	5	widow	4
super	4	thorn	9	unicorn	6	wigwam	-
superior	5	thou	-	uniform	5	wildcat	-
supply	5	thrill	4	union	4	wilderness	6
support	4	thud	5	universe	3	windpipe	10
suppose	4	thumbtack	-	upland	-	wizard	9
surround	4	thump	5	upright	5	workout	-
suspect	5	thus	6	Uranus	6	worship	5
suspender	5	thy	4	urgent	2	wreath	-
swamp	7	tiddlywinks	-	Uruguay	-	wrestle	-
swan	-	tide	4	vampire	7	wrinkle	4
sway	5	tilt	-	vapor	4	xylophone	-
swear	-	timid	7	vary	7	yak	-
sweat	-	tingle	-	vase	5	yap	8
swell	4	tinsel	-	vegetation	7	Yellowstone	5
swift	4	tint	7	vehicle	9	youth	5
syllable	4	tiresome	-	veil	-	zero	7
synonym	4	toadstool	10	vein	9	zone	3
synthesis	8	Tokyo	5	Venus	4		
tab	-	tole	-	veranda	-		
tablet	-	tom-tom	-	vessel	5		
tack	4	tomahawk	-	veterinarian	-		
tackle	4	tomboy	-	vibrate	5		
talent	6	tone	2	video	9		
tambourine	-	tong	-	view	4		
tame	3	toot	-	vine	4		
tank	3	topic	4	vinegar	4		
tardy	2	torch	-	violet	7		
tassel	-	total	5	vocabulary	K		
taupe	-	tough	3	volcano	4		
tee	5	tow	6	volume	4		
teenager	6	trademark	-	vote	3		
teepee	9	tramp	-	vulture	7		
teeter	-	trampoline	9	waddle	-		
telegram	9	trapeze	6	wade	5		
telegraph	4	treble	-	walrus	5		
telescope	7	tricycle	5	waltz	-		
telltale	-	trim	5	wasp	4		
temper	-	trinket	-	wax	3		
temple	3	trio	-	wealth	5		
tend	7	trombone	3	weasel	-		
tennis	3	troop	3	web	5		
termite	4	trophy	4	wedge	6		
terrier	-	trousers	-	wee	9		
territory	4	trundle	-	whack	-		
text	7	truth	2	wham	-		
texture	-	tuba	8	wharf	4		
thaw	4	tuck	6	wheelchair	-		
thee	-	tumble	3	whiff	10		
theft	7	turnip	6	whine	9		

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fifth grade

abandon	4	antibiotics	9	bail	6	bosom	-
Abilene	-	anticipate	5	bait	4	boxwood	-
aborigine	-	antidote	4	balsa	8	brace	2
abroad	7	antique	5	Baltimore	6	bravo	7
absolute	6	antler	7	ban	2	Brazil	5
abuse	5	Appalachian	9	bangle	-	breathtaking	8
access	8	appeal	7	bannister	-	breed	10
accessory	7	appliance	9	barber	7	briar	-
accompany	5	apply	K	bareback	8	bridle	6
accomplish	5	appoint	6	barometer	7	bristle	-
account	5	appropriate	7	baseboard	-	Britain	5
accurate	5	apt	6	bashful	5	brittle	-
acre	7	aqueduct	-	bass	7	broil	-
adapt	5	arbor	-	basswood	-	bronco	-
adequate	5	arc	6	beacon	6	brood	K
administer	-	arcade	7	bedrock	-	broth	-
admiral	6	archery	5	beech	-	browse	6
adobe	12	arena	6	beeline	-	brunette	-
advance	7	Argentina	5	Beijing	7	Brussels	-
advantage	5	armor	5	belle	-	brute	-
advertise	5	armpit	-	bellhop	-	buck	8
advise	6	aroma	-	bellow	-	buckskin	-
Aegean	-	array	-	beret	10	buff	11
affect	5	artery	9	berth	-	bugle	-
affection	7	asbestos	-	beta	7	bulge	10
afterward	7	asparagus	6	betray	-	bulk	-
agent	5	assemble	7	billfold	-	bulldoze	-
aircraft	5	assist	7	bind	6	burr	-
airfield	-	assume	7	binoculars	12	bustle	-
airman	-	assure	-	biology	7	butt	9
airstrip	-	asteroid	5	birthmark	-	butterscotch	-
ajar	8	astonish	7	biscuit	-	cabinet	2
Albany	5	astronaut	5	bishop	-	cackle	-
alcohol	5	astronomy	9	bleak	-	cad	3
algebra	12	attain	-	blindfold	4	cafe	5
alkaline	7	attempt	5	blister	-	cafeteria	5
allegiance	-	attire	11	blockade	9	caffeine	9
alloy	7	attorney	6	blockhead	-	calcium	5
almond	-	Austin	4	blockhouse	-	calculate	7
Alps	5	Austria	7	blonde	-	calico	5
altar	11	authority	5	bloodhound	-	camel	4
alto	-	automatic	11	blubber	-	campus	5
ambassador	5	auxiliary	-	bluebell	-	canal	5
amber	-	available	5	bluff	10	cancer	7
ambition	6	avalanche	5	blunder	-	candidate	5
amble	9	aviator	5	blunt	5	cannibal	7
ammonia	-	avocado	11	blur	-	cannon	-
ammunition	5	awning	-	bob	1	canopy	10
amphibian	5	axis	6	bog	-	canteen	-
analyze	5	azure	-	bologna	7	canvas	4
ancestor	5	bacteria	5	bonfire	5	caravan	4
angle	5	badger	-	bonny	-	cardigan	-
anteater	7	badminton	-	boom	5	cargo	4
antenna	5	bagpipe	-	boomerang	-	Caribbean	5

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fifth grade

carousel	-	clan	5	congress	5	cuff	-
carp	-	clash	-	connect	7	cultivate	9
cartilage	-	clause	11	conquer	6	culvert	-
cartridge	7	clench	-	conscious	5	cuneiform	-
cashew	-	Cleveland	5	conserve	7	curb	-
cask	-	clinic	9	considerate	6	curd	-
casual	-	cloak	5	consistent	7	curriculum	-
catalogue	-	clockwork	-	constant	5	curse	9
catastrophe	-	clog	7	constitution	5	cushion	4
cavalry	11	clot	-	consult	5	custody	-
cease	-	clothespin	-	contact	5	cuticle	-
celestial	5	clutter	8	contract	5	cutlass	-
cellulose	7	coax	-	contrast	7	cyclone	-
census	5	cobblestone	8	contrite	-	dagger	-
ceramic	11	cockpit	-	convention	6	dame	-
ceremony	4	cockroach	-	convex	11	damn	-
chafe	-	coconut	3	convict	-	dandruff	7
chairman	-	coke	9	cookout	5	dangle	9
chalet	-	coleslaw	9	cornet	-	dapple	-
chamber	7	coliseum	-	cornucopia	-	darling	-
chandelier	6	collapse	5	corridor	-	data	5
chaps	-	cologne	-	corrugate	-	dazzle	-
charity	6	colon	-	corsage	-	debt	4
charter	7	combat	5	cosmetics	8	decay	5
chat	5	combine	9	cottontail	-	decent	9
checkmate	-	comedy	7	couch	5	deckhand	4
chef	6	commerce	7	counsel	-	declare	6
chemistry	5	commonplace	-	counterfeit	9	decline	4
chess	8	commotion	5	cove	-	decoy	6
Cheyenne	-	companion	6	covey	-	dedicate	6
chime	K	compare	4	cowslip	-	deed	11
chinaware	-	compartment	7	coy	-	defeat	5
chisel	2	compel	-	crag	-	deflate	-
chlorine	9	compete	5	crane	K	defrost	5
chlorophyll	5	competent	4	crater	5	delay	5
chopsticks	4	complex	7	crave	8	delicate	4
chowder	7	complexion	-	crayfish	5	delta	5
chrome	5	complicate	10	crease	4	demand	5
chrysanthemum	-	compliment	5	credit	7	democracy	7
chum	-	comprehend	9	crescendo	-	demolish	-
chute	5	compute	11	crescent	7	demon	7
cider	-	concave	11	crest	-	demonstrate	9
cinch	-	conceal	6	cringe	-	denim	9
Cincinnati	5	concern	5	crochet	7	Denmark	-
cinnamon	5	conclude	11	crock	-	dentistry	7
circuit	6	concrete	6	crotch	-	depart	9
circumference	7	condense	9	croup	-	depress	9
cistern	-	confess	8	cruise	5	descend	5
citrus	-	confetti	-	crumble	4	destiny	-
civil	5	confident	5	crumple	-	detect	7
clad	-	confirm	6	crutch	-	determine	6
claim	5	conflict	5	cubbyhole	-	device	5
clamor	7	confuse	7	cubic	5	devour	-
clamp	-	congratulate	-	cue	7	diagnose	5

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fifth grade

diagonal	-	durable	5	eyepiece	-	foreman	-
dialect	-	dusk	-	fable	11	forge	10
diameter	6	duty	5	fabric	8	forklift	-
diaphragm	-	dwindle	-	fabulous	3	forlorn	-
differ	5	dye	5	fad	8	formal	5
digest	6	dynamite	9	falter	-	former	6
dignity	7	earl	7	fang	-	formula	4
dike	-	earnest	9	fantastic	5	fortress	11
diminish	11	earphone	-	fare	5	foster	5
dingo	-	earshot	-	farewell	7	foundation	5
diploma	-	easel	-	fatal	6	fourscore	-
discount	6	eaves	-	fate	6	foxglove	-
disease	4	ebb	-	fathom	4	fracas	-
disgrace	9	eclipse	6	feature	6	fragment	4
disk	-	ecology	11	federal	5	fragrant	6
dismal	4	economics	5	fend	-	frail	4
dismiss	8	edible	6	fender	9	frantic	5
dispatch	9	eel	5	ferment	5	fraternity	-
display	6	eerie	-	ferret	5	fray	11
dispose	4	efficient	4	fertile	6	freak	-
dispute	4	Egypt	5	fertilize	-	freight	6
distinct	4	elect	5	fever	7	frequent	5
distinguish	12	embankment	-	fiber	-	frill	-
distress	10	emblem	10	fiddle	-	fringe	6
divorce	-	embrace	-	fidget	-	frolic	-
document	7	embroider	-	fig	-	frontier	5
doe	-	emerald	6	figurehead	-	fume	6
dogie	-	emphasis	9	filter	5	function	6
dogwood	-	employ	6	filth	5	fund	5
doily	-	encourage	5	firearms	-	funnel	6
dolphin	5	enrich	4	fizz	-	furl	-
dolt	-	environment	4	flair	-	fury	-
domestic	7	envy	5	Flanders	-	fuss	-
dominant	9	epidemic	4	flapjack	-	gag	5
donate	7	episode	6	flatter	-	gain	5
doom	5	equation	7	flaw	9	galaxy	6
dope	-	equip	-	flax	-	gale	5
downfall	9	essence	-	fleece	7	gallant	-
draft	5	essential	7	flex	-	gape	-
dragonfly	-	eternity	9	flick	-	gardenia	-
drake	7	Ethiopia	-	flimsy	-	gargle	-
drawl	-	eventual	-	flint	7	garland	-
dreary	6	exaggerate	9	flora	12	garlic	7
drench	5	exceed	9	floss	-	garrison	-
droop	-	excel	10	flounder	-	gauge	5
dry goods	-	excess	5	flue	-	gazelle	-
duchess	-	expedition	5	fluke	-	gee	7
duct	7	explode	-	fluorescent	7	gel	-
dude	-	exponent	-	focus	7	gem	5
due	6	export	5	foe	6	generate	9
duet	-	expose	6	fond	7	genius	6
dugout	-	exterior	5	foothill	10	genuine	9
dumbbell	-	extinct	5	fore	-	geology	12
dungarees	-	extinguish	10	forecast	6	geometry	11

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fifth grade

Gettysburg	5	heathen	-	incident	5	juvenile	4
geyser	-	hectic	9	incline	11	katydid	5
ghetto	-	hedgehog	-	include	7	kayak	11
glade	-	heir	-	income	5	keen	7
gland	-	heirloom	8	independent	5	keg	-
gleam	2	helter-skelter	-	India	4	kelp	-
glee	-	hereby	-	infant	6	kerchief	-
glory	9	herewith	-	infantry	-	khaki	7
gloss	-	heroine	-	infect	-	kidnap	10
gnash	10	heron	7	inferior	6	kiln	-
gob	-	herring	5	inform	7	kinetic	5
gorge	6	hexagon	-	informal	5	knack	-
govern	6	hickory	-	inhabit	-	knead	-
grandstand	6	highness	-	inhale	-	knight	6
granite	5	hilarious	9	initial	4	knob	5
grasp	6	hitchhike	-	injure	6	lacrosse	-
gratitude	6	hoarse	5	inland	5	lag	2
grave	-	hobble	-	inlet	-	lair	-
gravel	5	hog	-	input	11	landlord	4
Greece	5	hogan	-	inquire	-	landmark	8
grenade	-	hoist	5	insert	8	lapse	-
grief	5	homely	-	inspire	8	larkspur	-
grim	6	homestead	8	install	6	latex	-
grime	8	honeydew	-	instinct	6	lather	-
grit	-	honeymoon	-	insult	7	latitude	6
groggy	-	honeysuckle	-	integer	-	latter	-
groove	-	hopper	-	intense	6	lattice	5
grope	-	horde	-	intent	7	laurel	4
gross	9	horizon	5	interior	5	league	6
grout	-	hornet	9	intermediate	11	leash	5
grove	6	horsepower	5	interpret	6	lecture	8
grub	-	hostile	7	intersect	6	legal	6
gruff	7	hourglass	-	interview	5	lend	4
grumble	4	howdy	-	invert	-	lest	-
guilt	7	hue	7	invest	9	Lexington	5
gush	-	hummingbird	-	investigate	6	license	7
gust	4	hump	11	invoice	-	linen	5
gutter	4	humus	-	involve	5	liner	-
guzzle	-	hurricane	4	ion	7	linger	7
habitat	-	husk	-	Iran	7	link	7
halt	2	hydroelectric	11	irritate	9	linoleum	-
halter	-	hypothesis	7	Israel	9	lisp	-
hamper	-	identity	5	issue	5	literature	5
handicap	8	ignorant	6	jab	-	litmus	5
hare	8	ignore	4	jackass	-	livelihood	5
hark	-	illegal	11	jailbird	-	loam	-
harness	-	illustrate	9	jealous	5	lob	-
haste	5	immune	-	jest	5	lobe	9
haunt	7	imp	3	jiffy	-	local	5
haven	12	implement	7	jitter	-	locomotive	3
haze	5	import	5	jog	5	locust	6
headset	5	impress	7	johnnycake	-	loft	11
headstone	-	impulse	9	jot	-	longitude	6
hearth	7	incense	6	jumbo	-	loot	-

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fifth grade

lottery	6	miniature	10	Nile	5	Pakistan	-
Louisville	5	minister	5	noble	9	palette	-
lounge	-	mink	-	nominate	-	pamphlet	5
loyal	4	minority	8	normal	5	panel	6
lozenge	-	minuet	-	nostril	-	panic	8
lumberjack	5	miracle	4	notify	7	panorama	-
lung	-	mischief	-	nourish	-	panther	6
lunge	-	missile	5	nuclear	6	paperback	5
luxury	9	mistress	-	nude	-	parakeet	9
lye	-	mite	-	nugget	-	parallel	5
lyric	-	mob	9	null	-	paralyze	-
magenta	-	mockingbird	-	obsidian	-	parasite	7
mainland	10	modify	8	obstacle	6	parasol	-
mainstay	-	module	-	obstruct	-	parchment	-
maize	-	molasses	7	obtain	6	Paris	5
majesty	-	mole	6	obvious	5	parliament	5
mallard	-	molecule	5	occasion	5	parlor	-
malt	3	molt	-	occupy	4	parole	-
mammoth	5	monarch	12	octagon	-	participle	9
manganese	-	monastery	-	octave	-	pastel	9
manicure	-	Montgomery	5	octopus	5	pasteurize	-
manor	7	monument	7	offend	-	pastime	9
mansion	7	moreover	5	official	5	pastor	-
mantel	-	mortal	-	offset	-	pastry	7
manual	7	mortgage	4	offshore	-	patty	-
mar	9	motto	7	ointment	9	payroll	9
mare	7	mourn	5	Olympic	5	peal	-
marine	6	mucus	5	omelet	5	peat	-
marionette	12	multitude	6	opal	-	pecan	-
maroon	7	municipal	7	opera	8	peculiar	7
marsh	9	mural	6	opossum	-	peg	1
marvelous	6	murder	11	opponent	5	pellet	9
masculine	9	murky	-	origin	5	pelt	10
mason	5	murmur	-	ornate	9	penalty	11
masquerade	6	muskrat	7	orphan	-	penicillin	4
mass	4	mustang	-	otherwise	6	peninsula	11
mature	9	muster	-	outcome	7	penmanship	8
mayonnaise	-	mute	-	outlaw	6	pentagon	6
meditate	-	muzzle	-	outlet	6	pep	-
Mediterranean	4	nag	-	outline	5	per	4
medley	11	naval	5	outpost	-	percent	5
meek	5	navigate	6	outsmart	-	perform	3
mellow	5	nectar	5	outstanding	5	perish	6
merchant	7	negative	2	outward	6	permanent	5
mercy	4	neigh	-	ovary	7	perpendicular	5
merit	4	neon	5	overboard	-	personal	5
midst	11	network	9	overcast	7	perspire	-
midway	8	neutral	7	overcome	5	Peru	6
migrate	4	nevertheless	7	overlook	5	petroleum	6
mildew	-	Niagara	-	overwhelm	7	phantom	-
military	5	nicknack	-	oxide	7	pharmacy	6
millipede	-	Nigeria	5	oyster	8	photograph	6
mimic	8	nigh	11	pace	6	physical	5
mineral	5	nightfall	7	paddy	-	physician	5

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fifth grade

pierce	5	primer	-	rank	5	rookie	-
pigment	-	primitive	7	rap	5	roost	6
pimple	-	principle	7	rapids	11	roster	-
pinafore	-	privilege	9	rascal	-	rotate	6
pinball	7	pro	7	rash	7	rouge	7
ping	5	probable	5	rate	4	rubbish	4
pinto	5	probe	11	raven	-	rubble	11
pitchfork	-	proceed	-	ravine	6	ruckus	-
pith	-	procession	5	reap	4	rudder	5
Pittsburgh	5	profession	5	rebel	5	ruddy	-
plague	-	profile	-	recent	5	rugged	6
plaid	-	profit	4	reckless	5	rumble	11
plank	-	project	4	recommend	6	rumor	-
plaque	5	projector	6	recorder	6	rump	-
platypus	7	promenade	-	recreation	6	rumpus	-
pliers	6	promote	7	recycle	7	runway	5
plod	-	prop	-	reek	-	rustic	-
plume	-	propel	5	refer	4	Sacramento	9
plunder	9	prophet	-	reflect	4	sacred	5
plunge	9	prospector	8	regal	9	saint	6
plunk	-	protein	4	register	6	Salem	3
plywood	-	proverb	11	rehearse	2	saliva	5
poach	-	province	-	reign	7	salon	9
poker	-	prune	-	rejoice	9	saloon	8
Poland	5	pry	-	relay	4	Salt Lake City	-
polio	-	pucker	-	release	7	salute	6
politics	5	pudgy	-	relish	5	sandpaper	7
polo	6	pueblo	4	render	-	saucy	-
pompom	-	pug	-	repel	5	savage	6
pope	-	pulpit	-	republic	5	scab	-
porcelain	6	puma	-	require	5	scamp	-
pore	9	pumice	-	resemble	4	scan	8
portion	8	pun	9	resent	11	scarce	5
Portugal	5	puny	-	reserve	8	scarlet	6
posh	-	purchase	4	resin	-	scheme	5
posse	-	puritan	8	resist	6	scholar	-
potion	-	pursue	5	resort	6	scoff	-
Potomac	-	putty	-	resource	3	scorch	8
pouch	5	pygmy	-	restore	4	scorn	11
pounce	-	quaint	9	retina	-	Scotland	5
pout	5	quality	4	reverse	7	scourge	-
poverty	3	quantity	8	revise	-	scrap	6
powder	5	quarterback	5	revolt	5	scrawl	-
powwow	-	quartz	11	revolver	-	scrawny	-
precise	6	Quebec	3	rickety	7	screech	-
pregnant	11	quill	5	ridicule	-	script	5
premium	-	quirk	-	rim	7	scuffle	-
preserve	5	rabies	-	rind	-	scurvy	-
previous	6	radiate	-	risk	4	sediment	5
prey	5	radium	-	rival	5	seep	-
price	3	radius	5	roan	-	segment	5
prick	-	ragweed	-	role	5	semester	7
priest	5	raid	7	Rome	5	senate	5
prime	6	ramshackle	7	romp	5	senior	5

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fifth grade

serene	7	snapper	5	stile	-	sympathy	7
session	8	snapshot	-	stilt	-	symptom	7
severe	5	snare	5	stimulate	9	taffy	-
shaft	-	snarl	-	stingray	-	tang	12
shamble	-	sneer	-	stirrup	6	tangerine	-
shank	-	snorkel	-	stoke	-	tangle	-
shark	5	snout	5	stomp	-	tar	7
shatter	7	snuggle	4	stoop	9	target	4
sheaf	-	society	6	strangle	-	tariff	-
shear	11	sod	-	strategy	6	tart	7
sheath	7	sodium	9	stratosphere	9	tatter	11
shield	6	sole	2	stray	7	tawny	-
shilling	-	solemn	7	streetcar	-	tax	4
shimmer	-	solution	6	stress	5	teat	-
shin	2	somber	7	strife	11	technology	5
shingle	5	sorrow	5	strut	-	temperate	6
showdown	-	spatter	-	stub	7	tempest	-
shriek	6	spearmint	-	stud	-	tempo	-
shrivel	-	sperm	9	studio	5	temporary	6
shudder	7	sphinx	-	stun	-	tempt	5
shun	-	spine	6	stunt	5	tense	5
sieve	9	spinster	-	stutter	-	term	4
silicon	-	spire	7	style	5	terminal	6
silkworm	-	spirit	5	submerge	5	terrain	4
silt	6	splendid	9	subscribe	-	terrific	7
sincere	5	spool	11	subsist	-	terry	6
singe	-	spout	-	suburb	5	testament	-
sire	-	sprawl	5	suds	-	testimony	-
site	6	sprig	-	suede	-	textile	7
sketch	10	Springfield	-	suicide	-	thatch	6
skipper	4	sprint	6	suite	10	theater	5
skirmish	-	spruce	-	suitor	-	theme	5
skit	6	spurt	12	sulfur	7	theory	7
skull	5	squadron	-	sulk	-	thermal	6
skyline	-	squall	-	sultan	-	thicket	-
slack	-	squelch	-	summary	9	thigh	-
slat	-	squint	5	summit	6	thrash	-
slate	4	stab	-	sundial	-	threat	5
slaughter	7	stadium	5	superb	10	thresh	-
slay	-	stag	-	superlative	11	thrive	11
slingshot	-	stagger	-	supernatural	6	throb	7
slink	-	stake	5	superstition	6	throng	-
slit	-	stamina	7	supreme	5	thunderbolt	-
sliver	-	stammer	-	surf	7	thunderhead	-
slogan	6	stampede	6	surgery	7	tidings	-
slope	5	stanza	-	survey	5	tidy	-
slosh	-	starboard	-	survive	5	tile	5
slot	2	starch	4	swagger	-	timber	6
slum	11	stateroom	-	swap	-	tinderbox	-
slump	8	static	5	swarm	8	tinge	10
slush	6	stead	-	swash	-	tinkle	-
smelt	-	stereo	8	swoop	-	tissue	5
smirk	-	sterile	11	swordfish	-	tobacco	7
smug	-	stern	-	symmetry	5	toffee	-

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Fifth grade

toil	-	underworld	8	walnut	-
toll	2	unicycle	7	wand	-
tomb	5	unite	9	wardrobe	-
tornado	4	university	6	warehouse	5
torpedo	6	unravel	-	warp	9
tortilla	-	upholster	-	wart	-
tot	6	uproar	6	waylay	-
totem	5	uranium	6	weapon	5
tour	3	urban	5	weave	9
tradition	5	urge	4	weird	7
transistor	-	usher	7	werewolf	7
translate	4	vaccine	-	wheeze	-
transplant	11	vacuum	11	whereas	9
transport	5	vain	5	whiplash	-
trapezoid	-	Vancouver	-	whist	-
treaty	6	vandal	-	whittle	5
tremendous	6	vanilla	6	whop	-
trench	5	vanish	5	wield	-
trespass	9	variety	6	wine	4
tributary	8	varnish	-	wit	7
tribute	-	vast	5	withdraw	5
trice	-	vat	5	wither	5
trigger	-	vault	-	withstand	-
trill	-	Venezuela	-	witness	2
trillion	-	vengeance	-	wobble	-
triple	9	Venice	5	woodchuck	-
triumph	-	vent	-	woodwind	5
trooper	-	ventriloquist	-	workshop	6
tropics	6	verge	-	wren	7
trough	5	verify	9	wring	-
troupe	11	vermilion	-	yacht	-
trout	5	verse	6	yank	-
trudge	4	vertebrate	5	yearling	-
trumpet	5	vertical	5	yelp	-
tuber	-	Vesuvius	-	yield	1
tuft	-	victim	5	yip	-
tugboat	-	vigor	-	yodel	5
tumor	11	vineyard	-	yonder	-
tuna	5	viola	-	Yosemite	-
tundra	7	violent	6	youngster	9
turban	-	virgin	-	yowl	-
turf	7	virus	9	Yugoslavia	5
Turkey	-	visible	7	Yukon	-
turnout	-	vision	5	zigzag	7
turquoise	5	visor	-	zinc	6
twain	5	vital	7		
twang	-	vitamin	4		
tweezers	-	vivid	10		
twitch	4	void	11		
udder	-	volley	-		
underbrush	-	vow	-		
underdog	-	wad	-		
undergo	10	wallet	4		
undergrowth	-	wallflower	-		

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Sixth grade

abbot	-	antic	-	benefit	5	Brooklyn	4
abduct	10	apostle	-	beriberi	-	Brownsville	-
abreast	-	appall	-	Berlin	5	Bulgaria	-
abrupt	7	apparatus	12	beryllium	6	bumble	-
abscess	-	apparel	10	beset	-	bungalow	-
abstain	-	apparent	5	bestow	-	bungle	-
abstract	7	appendix	7	beverage	3	bunker	-
absurd	6	apprentice	6	bevy	-	bunt	-
abundant	6	aqua	-	bias	-	burden	11
academy	9	Arabia	5	biceps	-	bureau	9
accelerate	-	arachnid	6	bicuspid	-	burly	-
accommodate	-	arid	11	billboard	-	Burma	-
accord	-	arsenal	-	bin	-	busboy	-
achieve	5	arson	-	binary	-	byway	-
acknowledge	9	ascend	6	bisect	-	Cairo	5
acquaint	7	asphalt	7	bison	9	calamity	7
acquire	9	assault	7	bizarre	11	calligraphy	-
acropolis	-	associate	-	blab	-	Cambodia	-
acute	6	astrology	9	blackhead	-	Cambridge	5
adept	-	Athens	5	blacktop	6	camouflage	8
adhesive	7	attribute	-	blare	-	campaign	5
Adirondacks	-	auction	6	bleach	-	Canterbury	-
adjacent	6	audio	-	blemish	-	caption	-
adore	8	audition	-	blight	-	captive	-
aerial	-	authentic	6	blimp	-	Caracas	-
affix	4	avail	-	boarder	7	carbonate	-
afflict	-	aviation	9	bobcat	8	carcass	-
aggregate	-	Babylon	6	Bohemia	-	caress	-
agile	7	bachelor	6	Bolivia	6	Carthage	-
airborne	-	backfire	-	bolt	9	cascade	11
airway	-	backhand	-	bonbon	-	caste	-
alas	-	Baghdad	-	bond	6	category	7
albatross	10	balk	-	bondage	7	cathedral	7
Alexandria	-	ballot	7	boon	-	causeway	-
Algeria	-	bandana	-	Bosporus	-	Ceylon	-
alien	9	barb	-	boulevard	7	champagne	-
Allegheny	-	barge	6	bounds	-	Charleston	5
ally	9	barley	7	bowel	-	Charlotte	7
alpha	7	baron	-	boycott	6	chasm	-
alter	6	barracks	7	bracket	-	chaste	-
alternate	6	barren	6	brainstorm	-	chauffeur	-
amateur	-	barricade	7	bran	9	Chesapeake	-
Amazon	7	barrier	6	brawn	-	Chile	6
ambiguous	-	basis	6	bray	-	Chinook	-
amethyst	-	baste	11	breadwinner	-	chivalry	-
amnesia	9	bauxite	7	breakwater	-	cholesterol	9
ample	6	bazaar	6	bribe	-	chromatic	-
Amsterdam	-	bearing	11	brigade	-	chronology	-
amuck	-	beckon	6	brink	7	cigarette	-
analogy	-	bedlam	7	broadcast	5	cinema	-
anemone	9	beforehand	9	broadside	-	circumstance	9
animate	9	behalf	-	broker	6	civic	-
anonymous	-	Belgium	5	bromine	-	clapboard	-
anthracite	-	Belgrade	-	Bronx	-	clarify	11

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Sixth grade

clarity	9	converse	7	deft	-	Dover	-
classic	9	convey	6	defy	-	draftsperson	-
cleft	-	Copenhagen	-	deject	-	drastic	7
clerk	6	cornerstone	-	delegate	7	dredge	-
client	10	corp	9	delinquent	11	drone	6
climax	8	corporal	-	delirious	7	drudge	-
clinch	-	corpse	9	denounce	-	dub	-
clod	-	corrode	-	deplete	-	Dublin	-
cloves	-	corrupt	11	derby	-	dunk	-
cobalt	-	cosmos	-	dermis	6	duplicate	-
collide	6	countenance	-	derrick	5	duration	12
Colombia	-	cowlick	-	despair	7	dwell	-
colonel	6	cramp	-	despise	-	dynamic	7
Columbia	9	crankshaft	-	despite	6	eavesdrop	-
coma	7	creed	-	detach	7	eccentric	7
combustion	9	Crete	-	detail	7	ecru	-
commission	9	crevice	-	detain	-	ecstasy	-
commit	6	crimson	7	deteriorate	-	Ecuador	9
compact	7	crinkle	-	devastate	7	eddy	-
compatible	-	cripple	-	devise	-	Edinburgh	-
compress	-	crisis	6	dialogue	7	eggplant	-
comprise	-	crisscross	-	diction	11	ego	-
con	10	criteria	9	diesel	7	eject	11
conceit	7	croquet	-	diligent	7	elaborate	5
conceive	-	crossroad	-	dilute	-	elder	6
concept	9	crucial	-	dinghy	-	elevate	6
concussion	-	crude	6	dingy	6	eligible	7
condemn	7	Cuba	5	diphtheria	-	eliminate	7
conduct	12	cud	-	diplomat	7	eloquent	7
confederate	6	cult	-	dire	-	embark	9
confer	-	cunning	6	discard	9	ember	-
confide	-	curfew	-	discharge	6	embryo	-
conform	11	currency	8	discreet	-	emotion	7
confound	-	cutter	7	discriminate	-	enamel	8
congest	-	czar	-	disgust	7	endure	7
conglomerate	5	Czechoslovakia	-	dismay	5	enforce	9
conquest	5	dainty	-	disrupt	6	engage	6
conscience	7	dale	-	dissect	8	enigma	-
consecutive	8	Danube	-	distort	-	ensemble	-
consent	10	daub	-	distract	10	enterprise	9
consequence	-	Dayton	3	district	6	entity	-
console	-	deacon	-	ditto	-	entrust	-
conspicuous	9	dean	4	ditty	-	enzyme	-
constable	-	debate	5	divine	-	equilibrium	11
Constantinople	-	debris	-	doctrine	-	erect	7
consume	11	debut	-	doldrums	-	erode	8
contaminate	7	decade	9	domain	9	escort	-
contempt	-	deceive	7	don	6	estate	11
context	-	decode	7	dormant	-	estuary	-
contingent	-	decor	-	dormer	-	etch	-
contour	7	decree	-	dormitory	10	eternal	-
contraption	-	deduct	-	dose	-	eucalyptus	8
contribute	5	defect	9	dour	-	Eugene	7
convent	-	deflect	-	douse	-	Euphrates	6

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Sixth grade

evaluate	11	fraught	-	gorgeous	7	Hiroshima	-
evergreen	6	frenzy	-	gourd	6	hither	-
evident	7	fright	-	graft	6	hitherto	-
evolve	-	frigid	-	grant	7	hoard	-
excavate	11	frisk	-	graphite	-	Hollywood	6
excerpt	7	fro	7	greed	7	homer	7
exclude	-	frogman	7	Greenwich	-	homograph	-
execute	7	froth	-	gripe	-	homophone	-
expand	7	fugitive	9	grotesque	-	honeycomb	6
exquisite	9	fulfill	-	grudge	9	hospitality	-
external	9	fullback	7	gruel	-	host	7
extract	7	fundamental	7	grueling	-	hostage	9
extreme	6	funeral	7	Guam	-	hothouse	-
eyesore	-	furrow	-	guarantee	7	hovel	-
Fairbanks	-	fuse	-	guardian	6	hover	-
fallow	7	gadget	7	Guatemala	5	hub	-
famine	7	gaggle	-	Guiana	-	huff	-
fanatic	9	gait	9	guillotine	-	Hungary	7
fantasy	7	gallery	6	guinea	8	hurdle	8
fatigue	6	gamble	-	gulch	-	hurl	6
feat	7	garb	7	hack	-	hustle	-
feeble	6	garment	9	hag	-	hybrid	-
feldspar	-	garnish	-	Haiti	5	hydraulic	-
ferocious	7	gash	-	hale	-	hyena	-
fester	-	gaunt	-	halfback	-	hygiene	-
fiance	-	gauntlet	-	hammerhead	6	hyperbole	-
fickle	6	gawky	-	handiwork	10	hypnosis	-
filament	12	gene	7	hanker	-	identical	6
fillet	-	generation	7	haphazard	11	idiom	-
finance	7	genesis	-	hardship	5	idol	-
Finland	-	genetic	7	Harlem	-	igneous	5
firebox	4	Geneva	-	harmony	7	illuminate	-
firefly	9	ghastly	7	harpsichord	10	immaculate	-
fireproof	-	ghoul	-	hash	-	immense	6
fixture	9	Gibraltar	-	haughty	9	impact	9
fjord	-	giddy	-	Havana	7	impair	7
flagship	-	gill	-	headlong	-	impertinent	-
flank	9	gimmick	9	headwaters	-	impose	12
flaunt	-	gin	-	headway	-	imprint	3
fleet	10	ginger	12	Helena	11	improvise	7
flinch	-	gingerly	12	helm	-	incentive	11
floe	-	gladiator	-	hemlock	6	incubate	-
florist	9	glean	-	hemoglobin	-	indicate	6
flounce	-	glen	K	hemp	-	indigo	-
flourish	6	glimmer	-	hence	7	Indonesia	-
fluent	-	glint	-	herb	5	induce	11
flurry	-	glockenspiel	-	heredity	7	inert	-
foliage	9	Gloucester	-	heretofore	-	infer	-
fondle	-	glower	-	hermit	7	inferno	-
foresee	6	glucose	7	hideous	-	influenza	-
format	9	gnat	-	hijack	-	infringe	-
fracture	6	gneiss	-	hilt	-	ingredient	7
fragile	7	goblet	-	Himalayas	12	inherit	-
frank	7	goo	4	hinder	7	initiate	-

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Sixth grade

inject	-	lacquer	11	magnesium	11	molar	-
inoculate	-	lagoon	9	majority	7	molest	-
instance	6	Lancaster	-	makeshift	-	Mongol	-
institute	8	lance	-	malaria	-	Mongolia	-
insulate	-	landholder	-	Malaysia	-	monk	-
insure	7	landscape	5	Manchester	3	monogram	-
interfere	7	Laos	-	Manchuria	-	monopoly	6
intern	-	lard	-	mandolin	-	monsoon	-
internal	7	Laredo	-	mangle	-	Monterrey	-
interval	7	lasagna	8	Manhattan	-	Montreal	4
intricate	12	laser	7	mania	-	moor	-
intrigue	-	lateral	-	mantis	-	moral	7
invade	-	lax	7	manuscript	-	morgue	-
invaluable	-	Lebanon	12	marathon	9	Morocco	-
Iraq	12	leech	11	marksman	-	moron	-
Ireland	11	legacy	-	marvel	6	morsel	-
iridescent	-	legible	10	massacre	-	mortar	10
isolate	6	legion	8	massage	-	mortuary	-
isthmus	-	legume	-	massive	6	mosaic	-
italics	-	Leipzig	-	mate	6	motive	7
ivory	-	leisure	7	matinee	7	muck	-
ivy	8	levy	-	mauve	-	muddle	-
jackal	-	liable	7	maximum	9	muffle	7
jade	-	liberal	9	maze	11	musket	-
jalopy	-	lice	11	media	7	mutton	-
Jamaica	5	lichen	9	median	10	mystify	-
jamb	-	lieutenant	11	medieval	-	mythology	7
Jamestown	4	ligament	-	Melbourne	7	naive	9
jangle	-	likewise	8	membrane	9	Nantucket	-
Java	5	limelight	-	memo	6	nape	-
javelin	9	limerick	7	menace	7	Naples	-
jazz	6	lingerie	-	mere	-	narcotic	-
jeer	6	linseed	-	merge	6	natal	-
jeopardy	-	liquor	-	meridian	7	nausea	-
jetliner	6	listless	7	Mesopotamia	-	neglect	7
jinx	-	livid	-	metamorphosis	10	negotiate	-
jockey	7	lodestone	-	metaphor	10	nerve	7
jolt	-	logic	7	metropolis	-	Newcastle	-
jounce	-	lore	-	mica	6	Newfoundland	-
jumble	-	lubricate	-	microbe	-	nick	3
jury	6	lug	-	migrant	9	nip	-
jut	5	lukewarm	-	mil	10	nobleman	7
jute	-	lull	-	Milan	6	noose	-
Kenya	12	luminous	-	miller	11	norm	-
keynote	-	lure	5	mimeograph	-	Normandy	-
Kiev	4	lurk	-	mince	-	noteworthy	-
Kilimanjaro	-	lush	9	minimum	8	Nottingham	-
kindle	11	luster	-	mint	5	notwithstanding	-
kink	-	lute	-	mirth	-	novice	11
knapsack	6	Luxembourg	-	misery	12	nuisance	6
knoll	11	lyre	-	mishap	5	nutmeg	-
Korea	12	madam	7	mistletoe	12	nutrient	9
krypton	-	mademoiselle	9	moat	-	nymph	5
Labrador	12	Madrid	5	mobile	-	obstinate	-

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Sixth grade

obverse	-	phenomenon	8	prow	-	reside	7
odor	5	Philippines	8	psalm	-	resolve	6
offhand	-	philosophy	7	puck	-	respire	-
offspring	12	phosphorus	11	pulp	-	restrain	11
onslaught	-	phylum	10	purge	-	restrict	7
Ontario	5	pickpocket	-	puss	-	retail	6
opaque	6	pier	6	putt	-	retain	7
oral	K	pinnacle	-	Pyrenees	7	retard	9
ordeal	11	pinpoint	-	quake	9	retire	6
ore	7	piston	-	quintet	-	retort	-
organism	5	pitfall	-	rabbi	-	retreat	-
Oslo	-	plankton	5	rack	-	retrieve	-
osmosis	-	plantation	7	radioactive	9	revenge	6
outback	-	plea	7	raffle	7	revolve	6
outboard	9	pledge	6	Rainier	-	Rhine	-
outlandish	-	pluck	-	ram	9	rift	11
outlying	11	plush	9	ramble	-	rig	-
outrage	-	ply	11	random	9	rigor	7
outwit	-	pock	-	ransack	-	riot	-
ovation	-	polecat	-	ransom	10	rivet	-
overrun	-	ponder	-	rant	1	robust	-
overseas	-	populate	-	rape	-	rodent	-
overtake	7	pork	6	ratio	4	romance	12
pamper	-	porter	-	rational	11	rotor	-
pang	-	portray	7	rave	-	Rotterdam	-
pantomime	6	pose	8	ravel	-	rouse	-
par	-	possess	6	rawhide	-	ruffian	-
parabola	-	potassium	-	react	-	rummage	-
paradise	-	potent	-	ream	-	rumple	-
Paraguay	10	potential	5	reciprocal	6	rupture	-
pare	-	Prague	-	reckon	-	russet	-
parsley	6	prance	-	recollect	-	rut	-
parson	-	predicament	-	redcap	-	rye	9
particle	9	predict	6	redeem	-	sacrifice	6
passion	-	preen	-	reef	8	Salvador	-
patriarch	-	preface	7	reel	5	sane	-
peasant	6	premises	7	referee	7	Saskatchewan	-
peddle	-	preside	-	reform	-	Savannah	5
pedestal	-	presto	-	refrain	-	savor	-
pedestrian	9	prevail	-	refresh	8	sawhorse	-
pedigree	-	prim	-	refugee	6	scald	-
pemmican	-	probation	6	refund	7	scallop	-
pendant	9	prod	-	regime	-	scepter	-
perceive	11	progress	7	regiment	6	schooner	6
perch	-	prohibit	7	regulate	7	scope	-
peril	-	prominent	7	rehabilitate	-	scoundrel	7
persecute	-	prompt	12	reject	12	scour	-
persist	12	prone	11	relic	-	scrag	-
persuade	6	proportion	6	remedy	7	scribe	-
petite	-	propose	6	remorse	-	scroll	-
petition	7	prose	12	repeal	7	scruff	-
petrify	-	prosecute	-	repent	11	scurry	10
petty	6	prospect	11	repute	-	scuttle	-
pew	-	prosper	-	request	7	scythe	6

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Sixth grade

seaway	-	spawn	-	supplement	9	torture	7
sect	-	specify	-	surge	8	totter	-
sedan	9	spectrum	5	surplus	7	tournament	9
seminary	-	speculate	-	surrender	-	towhead	-
septic	-	spellbound	7	suspend	9	trait	9
sequence	6	spew	-	suspense	-	traitor	-
sequin	-	spindle	-	swab	-	trance	-
serenade	7	spinet	-	swath	-	tranquil	-
sergeant	7	spleen	-	Sweden	6	transfer	2
serpent	9	splint	-	swerve	12	transform	-
serum	-	splotch	-	swivel	-	transfusion	-
shabby	7	splurge	-	Sydney	10	transmit	8
shackle	-	spry	9	symphony	5	transparent	5
shanty	-	squabble	12	synagogue	6	travail	-
sheen	-	squid	-	synthetic	6	treacherous	-
sheer	11	squire	-	Syria	-	tread	6
shipshape	-	standard	5	Tacoma	-	treason	-
shoddy	-	starling	-	tailor	7	trellis	-
shortcake	-	statesman	7	talc	-	tress	6
shrine	7	stationary	10	tallow	10	trial	6
shuttle	5	stature	6	tally	8	tribune	-
Siberia	-	stave	-	talon	-	trifle	-
Sicily	-	steed	-	tangible	-	trigonometry	-
sickle	9	steeplechase	-	tapestry	11	trolley	-
siege	-	stein	5	tarnish	7	truant	-
silhouette	-	stellar	-	taut	-	tuberculosis	-
silo	-	stench	-	taxidermy	-	tungsten	-
simmer	-	stencil	-	teak	-	turbine	9
sine	-	steppe	-	technique	6	turmoil	10
sinew	-	stevedore	-	teller	7	turpentine	9
sinister	5	stifle	-	tenant	-	tusk	6
sizzle	-	stigma	-	tendon	-	tutor	6
sledge	-	Stockholm	-	terminate	-	twilight	-
sleek	8	stout	11	Thailand	12	twinge	-
slither	-	straddle	-	therapy	9	typhoon	-
slouch	-	strand	9	thermostat	-	tyrant	5
sluice	-	strongbox	-	thesaurus	6	uncanny	7
slur	-	stronghold	7	thorough	9	underhanded	-
smallpox	11	stucco	-	threshold	11	unique	6
smolder	-	stupor	-	throne	12	unison	-
smut	-	subdue	6	throttle	-	urchin	12
snag	-	sublime	-	thrust	6	urn	11
snuff	-	submit	7	tiara	-	utensil	11
socket	9	substitute	6	tier	-	utmost	6
solder	-	subtle	9	titter	-	utter	-
solitude	6	succulent	-	toddle	-	vagabond	-
sophomore	-	sue	2	toggle	-	vague	6
soprano	-	suffocate	-	token	-	valid	6
sorcery	-	sullen	-	tolerate	10	valise	-
soul	10	sultry	-	tonic	-	valor	-
souse	-	summon	-	topaz	-	valve	6
spade	-	sunspot	9	topple	-	vaudeville	-
span	7	superintendent	-	torment	-	velocity	8
Sparta	-	supervise	-	torrent	-	vendor	9

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test

Sixth grade

veneer	-	wrought	-
venom	9	wry	7
ventricle	12	yam	-
venture	9	yearn	-
verbal	9	yoga	-
verdict	7	yule	-
version	7	zest	7
versus	-		
veteran	9		
vice	9		
vicinity	7		
vicious	5		
victor	6		
Vienna	10		
Vietnam	12		
vigil	-		
villa	11		
villain	-		
vise	-		
vocal	6		
volt	7		
vomit	-		
vulgar	-		
wafer	-		
wage	9		
Wales	-		
wallop	-		
warble	-		
ward	10		
warden	9		
warfare	7		
Warsaw	12		
wary	11		
watercress	-		
waterlog	-		
watershed	-		
watt	7		
welt	-		
whereupon	-		
whisk	-		
whiskey	-		
wholesale	6		
wholesome	6		
wicket	-		
Williamsburg	7		
wilt	7		
windfall	-		
windlass	-		
wisecrack	-		
woe	-		
wombat	5		
worthwhile	9		
wrath	-		
wrench	7		

Columns: basic word; first appearance on a standardized test